FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 075

17 April 1984

ARGENTINA

Kelly Reports 'No Advisers' in El Salvador [CLARIN 16 Apr] B 1
UK Reply on Falklands Termed 'Unacceptable' [CLARIN 15 Apr] B 1
No Reason Given for UK Plane Landing in Brazil B 1
FRG Foreign Minister Visits for Economic Talks B 1
    Visit Previewed B 1
    Report on Arrival B 2
    Discusses Debt With Caputo B 2
    Genscher Statement B 3
    Caputo Remarks B 3
Caputo Comments on Return From U.S. Trip B 3
    On Talks With U.S. Officials B 4
    On Foreign Policy B 4
Army Chief Scores 'Aggression' Against Military [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 14 Apr] B 5
Retired Officers on Anti-Armed Forces 'Campaign' [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 12 Apr] B 5
Defense Secretary on Prosecutions, Budget [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 13 Apr] B 6
Additional Retroactive Salary Increase Granted B 6

BOLIVIA

USSR Offers To Finance Mining Project, Plant [PRESENCIA 7 Apr] C 1
Interior Minister Says Situation 'Normal' C 1
Banzer, ADN Call for Immediate Elections C 1

BRAZIL

Figueiredo Outlines Electoral Amendment D 1

CHILE

Finance Minister: Talks With IMF Successful E 1
Interior Minister Says AD Head Insults Pinochet E 1
Court Confirms Prison Term for Socialist Almeyda E 1

COLOMBIA

Government Intensifies Antidrug Campaign [EL TIEMPO 11 Apr] F 1
Correction to Comments on Clearing of Mines F 2
Briefs: New Fighter Aircraft F 2

PERU

New Prime Minister Mariategui Interviewed J 1
Briefs: New Bank of Nation President J 3

MEXICO

Cuadra Condemns U.S.; New Envoy Announced M 1
De la Madrid Discusses Trip on Nationwide TV M 1
De la Madrid To Meet With Reagan, Trudeau M 2
Guatemalan President Greets De la Madrid M 2
President Congratulates Chernenko on Election M 2
Argentina Signs Compensated Trade Program M 3
Departing ROK Ambassador Says Relations Good M 3

PANAMA

Presidential Candidates Participate in Forum N 1
Paredes on C.A. Situation, Defense Forces N 8

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

President Monge Plans 11-Nation European Visit [LA NACION 3 Apr] P 1

EL SALVADOR

U.S. Embassy Salvadoran Security Chief Killed P 1
    Further on Killing P 2
Electoral Officials on Runoff Preparations P 2
ARENA Says U.S. Aid Not Linked to Elections [EL DIARIO DE HOY 13 Apr] P 3
PDC Cites AD Criticism of ARENA Positions [LA PRENSA GRAFICA 13 Apr] P 4
POP Announces Support of PDC in Runoff Election P 5
Police Chief Alarmed by Nicaragua Arms Buildup [LA PRENSA GRAFICA 13 Apr] P 5
'U.S. Advisers' Help Conceal Guazapa Massacre [Venceremos] P 5
FMLN-FPL Occupies Station, Broadcasts Message P 7
    Radio Takeovers Detailed [EL MUNDO 13 Apr] P 8
Chalatenango 'People's Government' Official Named [Farabundo Marti] P 8

GUATEMALA

Investigation on Missing Persons Ordered [EL GRAFICO 13 Apr] P 8

HONDURAS

Suazo Cordova, Lopez Reyes Speak at Air Force Event P 9

NICARAGUA

World Court To Study Complaint Against U.S. [Hilversum] P 10
U.S. 'Gunboat Policy' Said To Be 'Sinking Fast' P 10
Protest to Costa Rica Over Contra Activities P 11
    'Urgent Measures' Asked P 11
    Foreign Ministry Communique P 12
Daniel Ortega Sends Congratulations to Chernenko P 12

- Judges Meet in 'First National Congress' P 13
    - Addressed by Borge P 13
    - Issue Resolution Condemning U.S. P 15
- Opposition Groups Join To Form United Front P 16
    - Further on Alliance P 17
- Interior Ministry Communique on Contra Actions P 17
- Defense Ministry Claims 34 Rebel Deaths P 18
- Sandinist Navy Official on Mine Clearance P 18
- Organization Plans To Make Film on Port Mining P 19
- Reportage on Situation at San Juan del Norte P 19
    - ANN Said To Report Occupation P 19
    - Pastora Reports EPS Attack P 20
    - Pastora Interviewed [Voice of Sandino] P 20
- Pastora Says Bluefields Next Objective P 22
- Pastora's Bodyguard Killed on 'Southern Front' P 22
- ARDE's Robelo on Provisional Government, Tour P 23
- Robelo on Conditions for Electoral Participation [Madrid ABC 6 Apr] P 23
- FDN Supports ARDE Provisional Government Efforts P 24

CUBA

- UN Envoy Warns Against CIA Actions in Nicaragua Q 1
- Almeida on People's Unity, Internationalism [EL DIA 29 Mar] Q 1
- Military Ceremony Commemorates Militia Day Q 4
- FRG Legislators Visit European Studies Center Q 6
- Student Group Holds Congress in Bulgaria Q 6
- Reagan To Use Defense Funds for Salvadoran Aid Q 7
- U.S., Honduran Paratroopers Conduct Maneuvers Q 7
- Mining of Nicaraguan Ports Stirs Indignation Q 8
    - Worldwide Rejection Q 9
- CIA Said Asking Saudi Arabia Funds for Nicaragua Q 9

CARIBBEAN

JAMAICA

- Government Involvement in Business Criticized S 1

ST LUCIA

- Compton Submits Tax-Free Budget to Parliament S 2

GUYANA

- Vice President Attacks U.S. at Peace Conference T 1
- New Egyptian Ambassador on Expanding Relations T 2

KELLY REPORTS 'NO ADVISERS' IN EL SALVADOR

PY162207 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 16 Apr 84 p 2

[Excerpt] Elsa Kelly, Argentine secretary for foreign relations and worship, has made it clear that "there are no Argentine military or technical advisers in El Salvador, because that is not what the Armed Forces of a democratic nation are for." She added that although she did not have hard evidence of the fact, she was convinced, because of the comments she had heard and other information available to her, that the prior military regime did send Argentine advisers to that Central American nation. However, "there are none now," she emphasized.

UK REPLY ON FALKLANDS TERMED 'UNACCEPTABLE'

PY152257 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 15 Apr 84 p 3

[By CLARIN's special correspondent]

[Excerpt] New York -- The Argentine Government considers "unacceptable" and "unsatisfactory" Great Britain's reply to the new Argentine proposal to resume negotiations to find a solution to the conflict involving the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands. This disclosure was made yesterday to CLARIN by a diplomatic source who noted that the British note of 6 April completely overlooks the sovereignty issue and reiterates for the second time a four-point proposal to be considered in eventual negotiations and which is aimed only at the reestablishment of commercial relations.

NO REASON GIVEN FOR UK PLANE LANDING IN BRAZIL

PY162304 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2153 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (TELAM) -- A well informed source at San Martin Palace asserted that up to the early afternoon hours of today no official explanation on the landing of a British plane in Brazil had been received from the Brazilian Government. The plane was on its way to the Malvinas Islands. The same source has also indicated that through the reports that have been received from our embassy in Brazil, it is evidently a question of an emergency landing and if this is the case, then for humanitarian reasons the Brazilian Government could not have proceeded in any other way.

According to Brazilian press sources, it was a Hercules C-130 cargo plane, escorted by Brazilian military fighters, that made an emergency landing yesterday at 1445, Brazilian time [1745 GMT], when it was heading for the Malvinas from Ascension Island.

FRG FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS FOR ECONOMIC TALKS

Visit Previewed

PY122346 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1801 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Special report by Carlos Fernandez: "For What Are the Germans Coming?"]

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 12 Apr (NA) -- The visit that FRG Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher is to start next Saturday will be highlighted by economic matters. This is assumed, not only from the uneasiness that may be noticed in the FRG banking sector due to the huge debt of the Argentine private sector, but also because Genscher will be accompanied by a group of 35 German businessmen who are representing the most powerful enterprises operating in the two countries.

As far as diplomacy itself is concerned, the visit of Genscher -- whom Foreign Minister Dante Caputo will be unable to meet when he arrives since Caputo is now flying back to Buenos Aires from New York -- is making up for the "disrespect" shown by the FRG Government when it sent a medium-level official delegation to President Raul Alfonsin's inauguration.

In the political arena however, the Germans nowadays think -- and this seems to be the case with most West European countries -- that Latin America, and democratic Argentina in particular, has turned into a "more than interesting" choice within an increasingly restricted international framework.

This is why then, that after the "diplomatic gaffe" during Alfonsin's inauguration, the FRG Foreign Ministry quickly hit the rudder and proposed a "rearrangement" visit, which was joyfully accepted by the Argentine Foreign Ministry. This way, the bilateral relations between the two countries, according to diplomatic sources in our country, will achieve a "more effective level" as a result of the inauguration of a democratic government, something which allowed the German authorities to cancel the "freeze" imposed on these relations because of human rights violations during the military regime.

From this point of view, Genscher's visit to Argentina means an "accolade to the Argentime democracy," an accolade which will be consolidated, later in July, by a visit of the FRG chancellor and the president of the German Social Democratic Party to Buenos Aires.

Report on Arrival

PY151608 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0045 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 14 Apr (TELAM) -- FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher arrived here today accompanied by 19 representatives of the main FRG economic sectors. At Ezeiza Airport, Genscher said that the primary objective of his visit is to strengthen Argentine-FRG economic ties. His visit restores a link that was broken in 1968, when Willy Brandt visited Argentina in his capacity as FRG foreign minister. Genscher said that the restoration of Argentine democracy will promote bilateral ties.

Discusses Debt With Caputo

PY161454 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1400 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (NA) -- It has been reported that Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher this morning discussed issues concerning the Argentine debt to the FRG private banking sector, bilateral technological cooperation, and the Argentine nuclear plan.

Caputo, Genscher, and their close advisers held a meeting at 0930 at the Foreign Ministry. After a protocol meeting that was also attended by Foreign Ministry secretaries, Elsa Kelly and Jorge Sabato, as well as Roberto Guyer, the Argentine ambassador to Bonn, and Paul Verbeek, the FRG ambassador to Argentina, the official meeting began.

This was Genscher's first official activity since his arrival in Argentina on Saturday. Later, the FRG foreign minister held a meeting at Government House with President Raul Alfonsin and Dante Caputo. In the afternoon, Genscher is scheduled to meet with Economy Minister Bernard Grinspun.

Genscher Statement

LD161654 Hamburg DPA in German 1355 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (DPA) -- FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher started talks on Monday with the new democratic government in Argentina. After the first talk with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, Genscher said at a luncheon: "The FRG will do everything in its power to support Argentina on its future path." Genscher announced that the FRG would also help Argentina in the multilateral regulation of the public debt.

In a lunchtime toast, Genscher also mentioned the human rights violations of the military and the pledges of the new government. "We are convinced that you will succeed in solving one question which has strained relations between our countries in the past: clearing up the fates of people close to us." During antiterrorist campaigns of the 1970's "more than 10,000 people" disappeared, according to the president. Among them are 72 Germans and ethnic Germans. Genscher will receive the relatives of those who have disappeared on Wednesday before his return to the FRG.

Genscher is accompanied by a large group of German industrialists who, in individual talks with the labor and industry ministers on Monday, examined the opportunities and securities for German investments in Argentina. Argentina wants, above all, a larger technology transfer from the FRG.

Caputo Remarks

LD162334 Hamburg DPA in German 2253 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (DPA) -- During the German-Argentine talks in Buenos Aires today (Monday) the Argentine Foreign Minister, Dante Caputo, gave the assurance that his country wanted a settlement of the Falklands/Malvinas conflict purely by diplomatic means. The talks with Britain had reached a difficult point, however, because London wanted to negotiate but also wanted to exclude the question of the sovereignty over the islands. This was unacceptable for Argentina. FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher replied that the Federal Republic wanted to use its influence to see that no new international strains came about. This afternoon, Caputo also assured the German delegation that Argentina intended to use its nuclear knowledge exclusively for peaceful purposes. The Argentine nuclear authority and its budget were subject to strict civilian control.

In the evening, Genscher visited the German hospital in Buenos Aires, which was founded in 1969 and which, with its 300 beds, 500 staff, and 100 doctors, is the largest outside the Federal Republic.

CAPUTO COMMENTS ON RETURN FROM U.S. TRIP

PY151630 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1607 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (DYN) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today stated that the U.S. Government officials with whom he had discussed the problem of the Argentine foreign debt admitted that it does not involve just an economic problem but a political problem as well. The foreign minister made this statement during a meeting he held with the press at Ezeiza International Airport upon his arrival from Washington.

On Talks With U.S. Officials

PY151845 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1703 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (DYN) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today stated that during his mission to the United States, initial steps were taken "toward attaining the necessary conditions for a permanent and stable dialogue with the United States." He also asserted that he reached "an exceptional level of communication" with Secretary of State George Shultz on the Central American situation, although they had different views on some topics.

Foreign Minister Caputo said that "the people must now express their views on the Argentine decision in the field of international relations, taking into account concrete events and not rumors.

Caputo said that he discussed the Central American situation during his talks with Vice President George Bush and the secretary of state. He said that "we discussed the situation at length and we reached an exceptional level of communication, although we had different ways of viewing the problem." He added that "we looked at the consequences specific events could have on our countries, although they look at them from a different angle. However, we agreed on a set of basic issues."

Caputo stated that during his meeting with the U.S. secretary of state the subject of atomic energy "was one we did not discuss much. We discussed many matters, but we concentrated on the hemispheric dialogue and on the Central American problem."

Turning to another subject, after saying that "the government has not yet adopted any decision on the British answer to its proposal on the Malvinas Islands," he indicated that "the sovereignty issue is fundamental in any negotiation with Great Britain." Caputo added that "there never was a declaration of hostilities because hostilities were de facto and not de jure. Therefore, as hostilities have ceased, I do not see why we should de jure declare a cessation of hostilities." He added that "this business about the cessation of hostitlities appears frequently in press publications but not in the British documents.

Concluding, the foreign minister expressed his support for a reduction in the military budget and he expressed his belief that it will be possible to do it because all Foreign Ministry actions are aimed at decreasing tension in the disputed areas of the Beagle Channel and the Malvinas Islands.

On Foreign Policy

PY151830 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1715 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has said that the reestablishment of a legal political order must be coupled with the attainment of improved economic standards, and that the world solidarity with Argentine democracy, which has been expressed so many times, should also cover the economic area. The minister, who arrived from the United States at 1220, said at Ezeiza Airport that the negotiations he held in the United States developed in a very favorable atmosphere.

He said that the immediate objective of Argentine foreign policy is the strengthening of ties, first with Latin America and then with the United States and Europe, and that his trip will be instrumental in promoting a permanent and stable dialogue with Washington.

Asked about his statement that democracy will be in jeopardy if no economic solution is attained, the foreign minister explained that the reestablishment of a legal political order must be coupled with the attainment of improved economic standards. "Democracy brings not only freedom but also higher standards of living," he said. We are struggling to show to the world that its solidarity, which has been so many times expressed in connection with our democratic process, must also cover the economic area, he noted.

ARMY CHIEF SCORES 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST MILITARY

PY151637 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Apr 84 p 9

[Excerpts] Neuquen -- Army Chief of Staff Jorge Arguindegui yesterday denounced acts of "aggression against the Armed Forces as institutions by some groups which call themselves, or are called solidarity organizations," an allusion to human rights organizations. He agreed with recent statements by government officials that there is no "campaign against the Armed Forces," but emphasized there is "aggression" against the forces, "rather than its members" by the rights groups.

Speaking at the local airport before meeting with servicemen from the Sixth Mountain Infantry Brigade, Brigadier-General Arguindegui said "the Armed Forces have fought a war (with reference to the so-called 'dirty war' against leftwing subversion), and in any case what must be tried are the crimes."

"Various methodologies can be used in a war, this is not what is being tried now," he said. But he added "court investigations under way are independent, and that does not affect, nor favour the Armed Forces."

Arguindegui made a tour of Army units in La Pampa and Neuquen accompanied by members of his personal staff, Lieutenant-Colonels Mohamed Ali Seineldin (who is suspected of involvement in human rights violations), Norberto Miguel Giordani, and Carlos Quintana. When queried on reports of human rights violations which allegedly took place at the Neuquen Army unit known as La Escuelita (which the chief of staff said he "believed was an Army communications centre"), Arguindegui charged that a survey of the premises carried out by local human rights organizations and legislators "was not a visit, it was a back-door reconnaissance."

RETIRED OFFICERS ON ANTI-ARMED FORCES 'CAMPAIGN'

PY122305 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 12 Apr 84 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- A group of 67 senior Army and Air Force officers who retired before 1975 yesterday expressed their "growing concern" over the "arbitrary campaign waged by some national sectors and others abroad to tarnish the image of the Armed Forces" by means of accusations of human rights violations during the so-called dirty war against leftwing terrorism. In their statement, the officers expressed their "solidarity with the comrades who fought both decidedly and courageously against the corrosive, rootless scourge of subversion," as well as their "disagreement with the permanent and arbitrary denunciations of illegal behaviour against servicemen who carried out explicit orders from a constitutional government."

The officers took it upon themselves to "alert the population about the danger of such attitudes which, deliberately or unconsciously, contribute to encourage a possible subversive reaction."

When asked to comment on the statement, Senate Defence Committee Chairman Antonio Berhongaray (Radical-La Pampa) denied "there is a campaign to tarnish the presitge of the Armed Forces, but we are visualizing the rejection of a methodology and some men." Alberto Melon, a Justicialist member of the Lower House Defence Committee, made statements to the same effect.

Retired Rear-Admiral Horacio Zaratiegui acknowledged "the honesty of the attempt, I also think this leads to a pamphlet war that will help no one." Retired Rear-Admiral Carlos Busser, the only high-ranking officer who emerged from his participation in the Malvinas war with his reputation unscathed and went on to become Joint Chief of Staff during the administration of Reynaldo Bignone, declared himself "in full agreement with the assertions of these retired officers. I think it is time that Argentines come back to life and remember what happened in the country when going out on the street was an adventure."

DEFENSE SECRETARY ON PROSECUTIONS, BUDGET

PY132241 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 13 Apr 84 p 11

[Excerpt] Defence Secretary Horacio Jaunarena confirmed yesterday that during the administration of former President Jorge Videla several servicemen were convicted by courts-martial for common crimes committed during the military regime's so-called dirty war against leftwing subversion. The official said retired Lieutenant General Videla's statements to that effect "are true."

"A number of servicemen were tried by courts-martial in their time, and some convicted for common crimes," Jaunarena said. These crimes, mostly "thefts, robberies, and things like that," were committeed "taking advantage of the operations against subversion," he said.

Regarding the military budget, which "will be reduced from six percent of GDP to about 3.8 percent," Jaunarena said the Armed Forces will have to act "imaginatively" not to leave the country "defenceless." He denied any war materiel had been purchased abroad since the Radical administration was installed.

Jaunarena confirmed there would be an imminent increase in military wages while Lower House Defence Committee Chairman Juan Manuel Casella said the hikes -- the amounts of which have not been specified -- would favour only those holding the three lowest ranks within the officer and non-commissioned officer hierarchies. "Many non-commissioned officers are asking for retirement owing to the falling wages," he said.

ADDITIONAL RETROACTIVE SALARY INCREASE GRANTED

PY170240 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2142 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (NA) -- It has been officially reported that the executive branch today granted an additional 9.3 percent salary increase, retroactive to 1 March, and a 13 percent increase, retroactive to 1 April, for personnel of the national public administration.

The 9.3 percent increase has been granted in order to compensate for the difference between anticipated increases and the real increase in the cost of living.

USSR OFFERS TO FINANCE MINING PROJECT, PLANT

PY161851 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 7 Apr 84 p 8

[Excerpt] According to Mining and Metallurgy Minister Carlos Carvajal, the USSR, represented by Mashinoeksport, is interested in financing the overall Machacamarca mining project with an investment of $400-500 million.

The minister indicated that the executive board of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL] will study next Wednesday the letter of intention signed by COMIBOL and Mashinoeksport 20 days ago. He said that the offer involves financing the overall project including the plant itself and the subsidiary projects to guarantee the supply of mineral concentrate for the operation of the plant.

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS SITUATION 'NORMAL'

PY161843 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata states in the following report that, according to reports received from the interior of the country, everything is completely normal in Bolivia.

[Begin Alvarez Plata recording] Well, there is complete tranquillity in the interior of the country. Concerning La Paz, well... the most outstanding event was the meeting held by the COB [Bolivian Labor Federation]. The COB's conclusions and resolutions are already known by the public. We are looking forward to the talks, which must be held between the COB and the government, which is to be especially represented by Siles' economic team. We expect these talks to be begin next Wednesday. [end recording]

The government hopes that an agreement may be struck through a straightforward dialogue with the COB, an agreement that will allow the country to move forward and prevent activities from being paralyzed, something which is likely to occur if an indefinite stoppage takes place.

[Begin Alvarez Plata recording] [in progress]... [Word indistinct] My own point of view, an absolutely personal one, is that the government does not have... [Alvarez Plata changes thought] it will not refuse to hold talks on the program proposed by the COB, is this not so? [end recording]

BANZER, ADN CALL FOR IMMEDIATE ELECTIONS

PY170230 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] The Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN], which is headed by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez, has reiterated its position that the date for general elections must be advanced.

The former president said this to Panamericana in a direct and exclusive interview. He also said: We will see better times in the short term, the people must not lose hope.

Referring to the ADN's position regarding elections, he said:

[Begin Banzer recording] The ADN has never asked for the relief, or the resignation, of Dr Siles Zuazo. The party's position is that of advancing the elections. In other words, elections should be called as soon as possible in order to achieve an improved political reorganization throughout the country, and so that the Bolivian people, who committed some errors in 1980, can rectify their errors in new elections. [end recording]

Panamericana then asked him for his opinion about the economic measures that have been implemented by the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity]. Hugo Banzer answered:

[Begin Banzer recording] I want to tell you that I have studied the package of economic measures that has been approved by the UDP. Due to the ineffectiveness of the demand, the censorship and the protest; due to the limitations that democracy, which we do not want to interrupt, imposes on us, and anticipating the heartbreaking cries of hungry children, the rebellious laments of unsatisfied mothers, and the desperate reaction of men, who with their work will not be able to fill the empty stomachs of their families as a consequence of the economic measures that have recently been implemented; due to this pathetic panorama, we want to address a message to all Bolivians, a message that does not include violence, which we have been accustomed to using in order to obtain what we want. Our message is addressed, in the first place, to those who are currently suffering deprivations, including starvation, because tomorrow their problems will surely become even more serious and more pressing. We wish to tell these people that better times will come with the morrow, in a fairly short time. In other words, when better leaders and men of government are elected.

We ask Bolivians not to lose hope, because we Bolivians have the capability to recover: Our wealth is not being developed as it should be, in other words, it is being dishonestly and irrationally exploited. But, it is not only to the poor that we wish to address our message. We especially wish to reach businessmen and employers at every level to urgently ask them not to forget their employees and workers at this time -- whether they be employers in the city, in the mines, or the agricultural sector -- because this is the time when true human solidarity should emerge. This is a time when the spirit of Christianity should be practiced. Businessmen and employers, we ask you to help further and beyond what the law, whether good or bad, establishes. It is possible that with this help you will not have so many material assets in the immediate future, but surely these businessmen and employers will gain more spiritual assets. [end recording]

We have just listened to General Hugo Banzer Suarez, the top leader of the ADN.

In sum, this party reiterates its position that general elections should be called immediately. It has also announced that better times will come, and that the people must not lose hope.

FIGUEIREDO OUTLINES ELECTORAL AMENDMENT

PY170200 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2330 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Speech by President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo delivered over national radio and television network from Brasilia -- live or recorded]

[Text] Brazilians, today I have sent a proposed constitutional amendment to the National Congress. I have thus fulfilled a promise I made on 31 March. When I assumed the Presidency of the Republic, I swore before the National Congress to defend the national Constitution and to maintain the order and tranquillity of the fatherland. I also swore to lead the country to democracy.

The democratic process has never been inflexible. Each step, each measure proposed to Congress, has sought a change leading toward a democratic opening, and has been preceded by a thorough analysis to smooth the rough edges, to overcome the resistance, and to adjust each step to the highest interest.

The essence of democracy is the permanent disposition to comply with the public interest, when thus demanded. With the help of God, and thanks to this process in which responsibility and negotiations have prevailed, we have reached a democracy not only on paper, but in reality.

Today the people are expressing their desire for change. They essentially want democracy. If the people want change, and they politically express their desire, the government and the political parties cannot ignore them. If the people want it, the Constitution must be amended. And we are going to amend it. I am not opposed to an amendment. I have proposed that it be amended. But it must be changed with responsibility, with security, with tranquillity. And this can only be achieved through understanding and negotiation among national political forces. We must not do things hastily, overtaken by emotions or by the radicalism of some who want to manipulate the people's desire to fulfill their immediate personal interests. The proposed amendment I have sent to Congress proposes changes which express the government's desire to meet the people's will, to see the legislative branch strengthened, and to see the inter-party exercise expanded.

It is obvious that we are living through a period of transition. I address this word now, this day, to the young people: There is change. There is a valid need for change; to change or take the initiative for change; changes in method; changes in the process; changes of style; changes of habits; changes of political policies; changes in social or economic structures; changes in the manner of changing. This anxiety caused by the need for change has been partially solved by the proposed amendment I have presented. Amendments to a certain extent imply [word indistinct].

The changes I have proposed to the National Congress stress the following:

1. Reduction of the presidential term to a 4-year period with the possibility of seeking reelection, without stepping down from office.

2. Reestablishment of direct elections to choose the successor of the next president. If none of the candidates obtain an absolute majority, the Congress, through the vote of 50 percent plus one, will choose the candidate who had obtained more than 40 percent of the direct votes. If this situation does not occur, new direct elections will be held within a period of 30 days, with the participation of the two highest finishers from the first round of votes.

3. Restriction of the power of the executive branch to issue decree-laws.

4. Reestablishment of direct elections for mayors of the capitals, simultaneously with elections for governors.

The opposition wants to make believe that direct elections are the only effective instrument for change, and that indirect elections would represent an obstacle for the changes demanded by society. The opposition really claims that the electoral college is illegal. But the legality of indirect elections is unquestionable. The opposition has thus multiplied the attempts to abolish the electoral college and establish direct elections for the election of my successor.

No one had questioned the rule establishing indirect elections to choose the members of the electoral college, who will be charged with electing the president of the Republic through the indirect vote. Since the elections were held and the delegates distributed among the parties that participated in that election, the electoral college is being questioned because the rules for its formation have not been accepted. Now that the electoral college has been set, it has an unquestionable legal force, and must, therefore, fulfill its task. The campaign to abolish it is a bold political attempt to avoid the legally constituted provisions of the current Constitution.

To defend the electoral college against attacks is the task of the government and of all congressmen who support it. [Words indistinct] against the rules of the game [words indistinct]. I want to share the responsibility of preserving this rule with all those who accept it. Direct election is not the sole remedy for problems. Nor is it a factor of promotion of the change we all want. It is also false to present the indirect election as [word indistinct] to make the changes the nation expects.

The real obstacle to change lies in the refusal for dialogue, on the systematic resistance to negotiation, on pre-established conditions which are unacceptable for an understanding. We have overcome all obstacles with decision and the resoluteness to achieve the objective of turning this country into a democracy. The political (?timetable) has not been achieved without risks. We want it to continue without incident. It is the duty of all public men to look calmly toward the future, and not to surrender to current passions. We cannot give in to emotions or be led by those whose political interests have been defeated in the ballot boxes. We must struggle for the consolidation of the future.

The proposed constitutional amendment I have sent to the National Congress proposes [words indistinct]. Its approval by Congress demands understanding among parties, because none of these parties has the absolute majority required to amend the Constitution. The initiative I have adopted represents, therefore, an invitation to a negotiation, negotiation not only on the text of the proposal, but of other commitments [words indistinct] could have assumed in this political time.

A negotiation presupposes that the interested parties must be willing to grant mutual concessions to reconcile conflicting aspirations [words indistinct] and the harmony we all wish. Through this reconciliation and a commitment we will open the path to solve all the political problems which afflict our society. Reconciliation and commitment with political adversaries [words indistinct] of the same party family. Reconciliation and commitment which can be a source of amendments and of changes imposed by social progress. As all opening processes, responsible for [words indistinct]. I have the authority to ask the Brazilian political leaders not to withhold their cooperation in solving the serious problems that are adversely affecting the nation. Thank you.

FINANCE MINISTER: TALKS WITH IMF SUCCESSFUL

PY161328 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Luis Escobar Cerda has said that his negotiations with the IMF were successful. The IMF accepted a flexible Chilean economic program for the current year to stimulate an economic reactivation program and create new jobs. Therefore, the IMF accepted an incrase of the fiscal deficit from 4.6 to 5.6 percent, which means that the government will have an additional 20 billion pesos to implement the new economic program.

The finance minister returned from Washington yesterday. In the U.S. capital the minister met with U.S. Government officials and IMF and international bank representatives. The purpose of his trip was to hold joint meetings with IMF and World Bank officials, but he also took this opportunity to explain the plans of the new Chilean economic team.

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS AD HEAD INSULTS PINOCHET

PY141401 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa has accused the head of the Democratic Alliance of insulting the president. Jarpa stated that Gabriel Valdes predicted, in the speech he gave last night over a partial radio network, the worst intentions on the part of President Augusto Pinochet.

Jarpa also said that Valdes has chosen to place himself and his group outside the Constitution. The minister said: Mr Valdes' speech is aimed at making a failure of the call for unity and harmony, made by the church.

Jarpa said that Valdes is thus hindering all possibility of a renewal of the dialogue and that he is frustrating the initiative first taken by Msgr Fresno and then by the Permanent Bishops Committee.

COURT CONFIRMS PRISON TERMS FOR SOCIALIST ALMEYDA

PY141418 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] The Court of Appeals has confirmed the sentence against Marxist leader Manuel Almeyda. He will have to serve 2 years in prison, plus an additional 200 days, for advocating the overthrow of the government and for promoting stoppages in the country, respectively.

An intial sentence to this effect had already been handed down by Judge (Ubaldo Baundes), who tried the case. The sentence has now been wholly confirmed by the Court of Appeals. (Baundes) had decided that the punishment be transferred to the board of trustees for convicts [patronato de reos]; that is, Almeyda will have to go and sign at that office during the entire period of his prison term.

GOVERNMENT INTENSIFIES ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

PA141544 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Apr 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[Text] The government has canceled the air navigation licenses of 40 light planes after confirming that these were being used in drug trafficking activities with the United States. A study for implementing similar measures for 40 other light planes, and, for the first time in the country, for experiments with herbicides for the destruction of coca and marijuana plantations has also been authorized.

The drastic measures were adopted by the government following the hard blow inflicted to drug traffickers in the Yari region in Caqueta Department, where the authorities confiscated some of the most modern coca processing laboratories.

The government also irrevocably canceled the operating license of the Executive Air Services Company [Empresa de Servicios Aeroejecutivos] (SAE), which is owned by Rafael Ramirez Amaya. The investigations made by the Colombian authorities confirmed that the fleet of light planes affiliated with the company was used for transporting cocaine and engaging in other illegal activities.

EL TIEMPO learned through official sources that the National Council of Drugs [Consejo Nacional de Estupefacientes] and the Drug Control Office [Oficina de Control de Estupefacientes] of the National Police have identified the three North Americans who were linked to the drug traffic ring leaders who directed the clandestine operations at Yari. The names of the three foreigners, who are being sought in different parts of the country, were not disclosed.

The air navigation licenses and drug permits of the 40 light planes were revoked after their connection with the transportation of cocaine processed in the large laboratories in the Yari region was verified.

The government is studying the possibility of similar actions against 40 other light planes, suspected of being used in drug trafficking activities, mainly with the United States.

For the first time in the country, the government has authorized the use of herbicides for the destruction of the large coca and marijuana plantations discovered in the regions of Los Llanos Orientales, Cauca, Guajira, and other Colombian departments.

The authorities have specific information confirming that before the coca processing laboratories in Yari were discovered, approximately 1,600 tons of the alkaloid had been shipped to the United States.

The National Police will conduct the initial tests to determine the effects of the herbicides. At first, it will use the chemical product known as 2-4E, which in other countries has yielded positive results in destroying coca and marijuana plantations. The use of paraquat has not been ruled out, but the authorities have not authorized experiments with this product for fear of the harmful effects it apparently has on human health.

The government has adopted several measures to control the import of ether and has regulated the inspection procedures on companies that bring the product, which is essential to the processing of coca, into the country.

Some special provisions have been adopted that will provide information on the use being given to imported ether, and will maintain strict and permanent vigilance on the firms that sell it in the country.

Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, Deputy Attorney General Jaime Ossa Arbelaez, Irma Mora, the executive secretary of the National Council of Drugs, and other government officials will seek to strengthen the agreement signed between the two countries to control cocaine and marijuana traffic in the border region in Caracas today. The bilateral agreement was signed on 13 December 1978, but it became effective only several weeks ago.

In Caracas, the mixed committees named by the two governments will submit the compiled information on cocaine and marijuana traffic through the common border; the results of the campaigns for the prevention, suppression, and control of drugs that are being carried out by Colombia and Venezuela; and the reports of the subcommittees in charge of preparing the joint security measures to be coordinated by the two nations.

The meeting in Caracas will be presided over by Minister Lara Bonilla, who has a full report on the results of the latest operations against drug traffic carried out by the Colombian authorities, particularly in Yari.

The National Council of Drugs in its last session praised the positive results obtained by the National Police in its battle against drug traffic and the effective campaign carried out in the rugged region of Yari, in Caqueta.

CORRECTION TO COMMENTS ON CLEARING OF MINES

The following is a correction to the item headlined "Managua: Lloreda Comments on Clearing of Mines" published in the 13 April Latin America DAILY REPORT on page F 1.

Sourceline should read: Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Apr 84 (adding "Network")

BRIEFS

NEW FIGHTER AIRCRAFT -- Barranquilla, 27 Mar -- General Enrique Morrillo, commander of the Northern Air Command of the Colombian Air Force, reported the April arrival of nine A-37 fighter planes, manufactured by Cessna in the United States, to complete the 12 units assigned by the Defense Ministry to the Atlantic coast Air Force base. These planes will guarantee the national sovereignty on the Atlantic coast, the Caribbean Sea, and the San Andres and Providencia Archipelago, and will help in the development programs for the Atlantic coast. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Mar 84 p 7 B PA]

NEW PRIME MINISTER MARIATEGUI INTERVIEWED

PY162140 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0235 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Interview with Prime Minister Sandro Mariategui by Cesar Hildebrand]

[Excerpts] [Hildebrand] In our program "Vision," we will interview Senator Sandro Mariategui, who is Peruvian prime minister and foreign minister. Good evening sir.

[Mariategui] Good evening [word indistinct].

[Hildebrand] Recently there were two contradictory economic trends. One was the orthodox policy toward the IMF headed by Dr Carlos Rodriguez Pastor. The other one tried to veer in a different direction by viewing the IMF policy with more imagination and perhaps from a more nationalistic stand. Do you prefer a reactivation or a continuation of the same policy?

[Mariategui] Well, look, I am by no means in favor of continuing with the same policy. I am in favor of a reactivation. But the positions of the two groups you have mentioned are not so dogmatic. The standby agreements with the IMF have been agreed upon by the parties, and they are not impositions. The agreement itself implies a commitment because it becomes [words indistinct] between the parties which pledge to comply with it. The problem lies in negotiating an adequate agreement with the IMF. We are currently waiting for the IMF's answer to the letter of intent submitted by Dr Carlos Rodriguez Pastor. Based on the proposed standby agreement, we will be able to renegotiate the foreign debt with international private banks and later the [word indistinct] of the country with other governments.

[Hildebrand] [Words indistinct] advocate a modification of the terms of the negotiation made with the IMF by Dr Rodriguez Pastor? In other words, should the letter of intent proposed by him be signed?

[Mariategui] Well, it must be clearly understood that we must wait until the IMF answers the proposal. Now, if we do not get an answer, then we should make a new negotiation and propose new bases for an agreement.

[Hildebrand] Senator, do you not think that the goals proposed by Rodriquez Pastor are impossible to attain and that they are too much for Peru? I am referring in particular to reaching a 3.8-percent deficit. [as heard]

[Mariategui] Obviously, these goals are very difficult to attain. However, they are goals and the most important thing is to get as near to their attainment as possible. Obviously, if these goals are too distant, they will be much more difficult to reach. But, we have [Mariategui changes thought] we are preparing alternative formulas to implement a severe economic plan.

[Hildebrand] I wanted to talk about this in general terms because perhaps it would be too much to ask you for specific definitions. However, we think we can ask you for general definitions. The people ask themselves why there was a cabinet reshuffle, why is Sandro Mariategui prime minister now and not Schwalb, and why is Benavides heading the Economy Ministry and not Rodriguez Pastor. Could you tell us briefly the most important aspects of the change that will be made in the economic policy?

[Mariategui] Well, I believe that it is too early to request a definition right now. The new cabinet ministers were installed in the middle of last week and I was formally installed last Thursday [words indistinct] Council of Ministers and today is Sunday. So there has been no time to draw up a plan. But obviously there will be a change. We intend to improve the image of the cabinet and of the democracy. As I said sometime ago, we want an efficient democracy where discipline and work will prevail. But most important of all, we want this democracy to be able to take into account the people's claims and needs.

[Hildebrand] How would you define the economic changes proposed by President Belaunde, which consists of economic austerity without recession. Many specialists would like to know how we can have an austere economic policy without recession. What do you think about it?

[Mariategui] Ours is a special situation because we have both inflation and recession. We cannot fight against the two of them at the same time. We must first fight against recession. We will eliminate recession [words indistinct] inflation later. Therefore, during the first stage of the economic plan we must confront the recession and reactivate the economy in order to be able to fight inflation later.

[Hildebrand] But by fighting recession you could cause an increase in the inflation rate.

[Mariategui] Well, if necessary yes. It is understood [Mariategui changes thought]. But in the end this will reactivate the economy and there will be more money and jobs for everybody.

[Hildebrand] About 5 or 6 weeks ago, General Adrian Huaman referred during our program to the crucial problem of lack of resources in the emergency area where actions by Shining Path, although they have diminished lately, have had a dramatic effect on the country. Do you not think that now that you have taken over as prime minister and that you intend to improve the government's efficiency you should implement a concrete and significant development plan in Ayacucho?

[Mariategui] I understand General Huaman's arguments as do the other cabinet ministers. Obviously, funds must be allocated to Ayacucho for development plans. But before doing this we must pacify the region. How can we send engineers and workers to build a road if [Shining Path] will [words indistinct] tractors and murder the engineers and workers? How can you [words indistinct] or they blow up a canal? Therefore, before we heed General Huaman's request, we must pacify the region so that the state can later implement a development plan there. We are aware that Ayacucho desperately needs it.

[Hildebrand] Some people insisted on the alternative of forming a cabinet made up of Popular Action [AP] members only. Do you not think that in this final, decisive, and difficult stage of the AP administration it would be risky to form a single-party cabinet? Would the government not show a certain degree of conceit by doing this rather than by an opening toward representative opposition groups? Do you not think it would be a tactical mistake, Senator?

[Mariategui] I do not know where that idea came from. At least the AP never thought about such a thing. This never crossed my mind or that of the president of the Republic when he resolved this problem.

When the president of the Republic talked to me about the possibility of (?becoming prime minister), the cabinet had two ministers of the Popular Christian Party [PPC] whom we never thought of dismissing. We never planned to form a single-party cabinet. This is evidenced by the fact that we now have independent people to replace our friends of the PPC, such as Justice Minister Alex Schreiber. There are other independent people from [word indistinct] and you know who they are. The energy minister is among them. Therefore, we have never proposed a single-party cabinet. [Words indistinct] you need only to look back. Remember that at the beginning of this government, the president of the Republic invited all democratic forces of the country to participate in the cabinet.

[Hildebrand] The PPC leaders always maintained that they were cooperating with the government to strengthen the democratic system. However, they withdrew from the government 15 months before the elections and at a particularly difficult moment. Do you think that the PPC decision has helped to strengthen the democracy?

[Mariategui] [Words indistinct] democracy. The PPC cooperated with us in both the cabinet and the Congress. The PPC withdrew from the cabinet only, but they continue to support us in the Congress, which is the most important field in a democracy because the laws are made there. They are cooperating with us in the Congress. Besides, we all know the PPC's history and they will not abandon us under any circumstance. I am convinced that they will continue to support the democratic process.

BRIEFS

NEW BANK OF NATION PRESIDENT -- The Peruvian Government has appointed Carlos Delgado Fernandez as new president of the Bank of the Nation. [Summary] [Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 1 Apr 84 p 3 PY]

CUADRA CONDEMNS U.S.; NEW ENVOY ANNOUNCED

FL161400 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2220 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 14 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Nicaragua's ambassador to Mexico Mauricio Cuadra today condemned, in Mexico City, the U.S. use of terrorism against civilians in Central America and said that this region's only chance for peace is through the Contadora Group.

In an interview with NOTIMEX, Cuadra said that to mine Nicaraguan ports, to attack foreign merchant ships, and to occupy Honduras militarily -- in order to give counter-revolutionaries logistical support -- is to return to the law of the jungle.

Mauricio Cuadra returned to Nicaragua today to work with Nicaragua's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Former Minister of the International Reconstruction Fund Edmundo Jarquin will replace Cuadra as Nicaragua's ambassador to Mexico.

DE LA MADRID DISCUSSES TRIP ON NATIONWIDE TV

FL162016 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1445 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 16 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid has described, with great clarity over a nation-wide television broadcast, the results of his first five-country tour through Latin America.

In his speech, De la Madrid said that nations around the world, especially Latin American nations, believe that Central America's best chances for resolving its problems lie in the Contadora Group's efforts.

He said that the tour had given him a better understanding of the problems found in this region and that it had brought about greater cooperation, in the economic and financial areas. The $500 million loan granted to Argentina by Mexico, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, and the United States to repay its foreign debt is a demonstration of this increased cooperation. The best testimonies that De la Madrid's trip brought about positive results and established more solid bases for closer relations among these nations are the accords drawn up pertaining to technological and cultural matters, agreements promoting exports, and projects to establish companies, such as the one which will be established jointly by Mexico and Brazil in Colombia to supply coal or the big project to connect the electrical systems of Colombia, Central America, and Mexico. Both projects came about from this trip.

In his speech De la Madrid reiterated his experiences and meetings with the foreign leaders and was precise in his judgments and opinions. His speech left a deep impression on public opinion, as did his speeches throughout his tour, especially when he warned about the grave dangers which are seen in developing nations. He also cited the necessity for more unity and the need for restructuring each nation's domestic economy.

DE LA MADRID TO MEET WITH REAGAN, TRUDEAU

PA141912 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1005 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 14 Apr (EFE) -- The economic crisis, increasing tensions, and regional conflicts will soon be discussed by the Mexican and U.S. presidents, the Mexican Foreign Secretariat has announced. It added that for this purpose Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid will travel to Washington on 14 May at the invitation of his U.S. colleague Ronald Reagan.

Both statesmen will discuss their commercial and financial ties and border cooperation. They will also have an opportunity to assess the results of the Mexican-U.S. binational commission which will meet in the U.S. capital on 17 April.

The Foreign Secretariat noted that President de la Madrid's visit to the United States falls within the framework of the periodic consultations which the two presidents have recently held.

This will be the first visit by the Mexican chief of state to the United States as president. President Reagan visited Mexico in August 1983. According to the Foreign Secretariat, the occasion will allow both presidents to continue the dialogue begun in the Mexican city of La Paz last year, and to review the developments since then and the expansion and diversification of the bilateral relations between the two countries.

De la Madrid will also visit Canada 7-9 May to meet with Pierre Elliott Trudeau to discuss the international situation and the situation in Central America.

GUATEMALAN PRESIDENT GREETS DE LA MADRID

FL132306 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2210 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Guatemalan President Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores has sent Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid a message expressing his gratitude for the effort that Mexico has made on his way to the United States. The following text was made public by the General Directorate of Social Communication of the Office of the President:

In the name of the Guatemalan people and in my name, I send you brotherly greetings and express sincere wishes for the well being of your people. I reiterate my gratitude for the efforts your government has made through the Contadora Group to find the path to democracy and peace in Central America. Very truly yours.

The message is signed General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores.

PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES CHERNENKO ON ELECTION

FL130032 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2230 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The Government of Mexico has reiterated to the Government of the USSR its intention to contribute to the strengthening of the channels of cooperation and dialogue between the peoples of the world.

The Mexican position is stressed in a congratulatory message that President Miguel de la Madrid sent Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko on the occasion of the latter's election as president of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

In the text of the document, De la Madrid recommends that the great powers continue to contribute their best efforts to the search for detente and understanding to reduce the danger to world peace and security.

I am very pleased also that the relations between Mexico and the USSR, which are based on mutual respect, cooperation, and understanding, are continuing to develop to our mutual benefit and as a contribution to international peace and harmony.

ARGENTINA SIGNS COMPENSATED TRADE PROGRAM

FL131312 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0325 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico and Argentina have established a Compensated Trade Program (PIC) [Programa de Intercambio Compensado] which will eliminate tariff barriers and broaden relations between the two countries as a first step toward objectively unifying Latin American trade.

Under Secretary of Foreign Trade Luis Bravo Aguilera affirmed that this type of trade program has become a reality as a result of President Miguel de la Madrid's recent trip to Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Venezuela.

During a press conference, Bravo Aguilera, who was accompanied by Jorge B. Riaboi, economic and commercial attache of the Argentine Embassy in Mexico, explained that the mechanism established today will enable the two countries to conduct commercial transactions through official, private, or joint enterprises without having to pay in dollars or other types of international currencies.

According to the PIC, he indicated, Argentina and Mexico will grant reciprocal lines of credit amounting to $50 million in order to support the exports that each side channels to the other, in accordance with the laws of both nations.

Finally, he explained that the lines of credit could be expanded by simple agreement of the institutions involved in terms of exchange needs. The agreement can be revised every 4 months and preferences will be granted to products or goods that the countries acquire. [as received]

DEPARTING ROK AMBASSADOR SAYS RELATIONS GOOD

FL132034 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1914 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- South Korean's ambassador to Mexico Sin Tong-won has stated, on ending his diplomatic tour of 3 years in Mexico, that both diplomatic and trade relations between the two countries have thrived.

Mr Sin, on being interviewed at Mexico City's international airport before his departure to India, said that when he arrived in Mexico, trade relations between Mexico and South Korea came to $100 million, and that 3 years later this amount has been tripled.

Mr Sin added that, due to good relations between the two countries, South Korea daily buys 20 million barrels of crude oil from Mexico and that he hopes this amount will increase in the near future.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES PARTICIPATE IN FORUM

PA121625 Panama City Sistema de Television Educativa in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Apr 84

[Presidential candidates forum with Nicclas Ardito Barletta, candidate of the National Democratic Union, UNADE; General Ruben Dario Paredes, retired, candidate of the Popular Nationalist Party, PNP; Ricardo Barria, candidate of the Workers Socialist Party, PST; Dr Jose Renan Esquivel, candidate of the United People's Front, FREPU; Dr Carlos del Cid, candidate of the People's Party, PdP; Dr Carlos Ivan Zuniga, candidate of the Peoples Action Party; and moderator Alcibiades Ballesteros; questions from audience read by a panel of university representatives; at the campus of the University of Panama in Panama City -- live]

[Excerpts] [Ardito Barletta] UNADE has published its government platform which I have been developing in a number of speeches that I have delivered in various parts of the country. I believe this audience deserves my respect so I will not repeat some of the points I have recently discussed. I will just summarize the four main points of our platform: First, the full establishment and strengthening of the democratic system in our country and the preeminence of civilian power as an expression of that democracy. Second, continuing the efforts to increase our people's integral development and national independence through a number of changes in the country's social and political policies. Third, strengthening public administration in these current difficult times so that it can respond responsibly, efficiently, and honestly, maintain the country's stability, and give the people the type of public administration that they demand and need for national development. Fourth, maintaining and strengthening a foreign policy that specifically permits us to respond to the highest national interests in a clear and pragmatic way in accordance with the Constitution, the laws, and the Panamanian will.

I would like to take a few minutes this afternoon to touch on a much more permanent and solid aspect of our national reality. I dare to do so precisely because we are here in the national university before an audience of professors and students of our main higher education center. I am referring to national independence, the national reality, and the national university.

Within this reality, we want to be as independent as we can in interdependence with other countries. We want to be independent politically, economically, and culturally, and in the area of sovereignty. At the same time we want to be materially wealthier, at least to have the opportunity to satisfy our basic needs so that we can achieve our potential as human beings and as a country. An essential point that is practically scientific is that we cannot achieve those objectives of greater political, economic, and cultural independence and greater material well-being by development inwardly and isolating ourselves from the rest of the world.

As we have been doing, we must continue to seek development and greater independence by looking outward and engaging in contact with the rest of the world. This makes the consolidation of independence more difficult, but in the end it is more satisfactory.

The political independence that we want to continue to consolidate must be based on greater economic independence through interdependence with the world, which is getting smaller due to technology and communications. Economic independence, which is the basis for the greater political independence that the Panamanians desire, must be achieved by looking outward and not inward. For example, this country needs to increase and diversify its exports. We will achieve this in two ways: diversifying our exports so that we will not depend on one or a few products and diversifying the markets to which we export our products or from which we import what we need. If we achieve these two great permanent objectives, we can increase national wealth and increase the country's economic independence. By having greater economic independence, we can make our political independence more effective.

[Paredes] Even though the allotted time may not be enough, I will try to outline in this speech, in a sort of X-ray or diagnostic fashion, the views of the PNP and the Third Force on the nation's situation and some of the measures that must be adopted either immediately or in the long run to enable Panama to forge ahead.

The crisis in April 1984: the national public and private debts combined total 400 billion [currency not specified]. The crisis of the Colon Free Zone has become more acute because of the problem of the Central American war and the devaluation of Venezuela's bolivar. There are 150,000 jobless and a housing deficit of 150,000 units. There is insecurity in the farm sector. The crisis continues because we need 20,000 new jobs every year and we are currently creating only some 9,000 jobs a year.

Favorable conditions in the country, which we must take advantage of: We have a canal area at our disposal as a result of the Torrijos-Carter treaty. The canal area has not been exploited and is not being developed as it should. We must be very careful about the implementation of these treaties because the U.S. law on implementation of the treaties strays to some degree from the content, philosophy, spirit, and letter of the provisions of the Torrijos-Carter treaty. In this regard, all Panamanians of all persuasions must make an effort with a view to the year 2000, so we will not reach it with military bases still here.

Our immediate objectives are to create new sources of employment and to strengthen our technical and scientific infrastructure. Our immediate goals are to strengthen social peace and public security so enterprises may develop; to reactivate the nation's economy; to restore political faith and stability; and to curb wrongdoing.

Our ultimate goals are to create more wealth and to develop big, medium-sized, and small enterprises. There cannot be pure, true democracy without private enterprise, without mixed enterprise, which must be strengthened. We must bolster exports and attract resources and foreign exchange. We must take maximum advantage of our geographical position and expand the canal's transit capacity. The canal is being overtaken by other technology. If we do not pay attention to this [changes thought] we must improve and perfect it in order not to lose the monopoly over a strategic resource such as this.

Some of our other ultimate goals are to take maximum advantage of our farming, livestock, fishing, forestry, and other resources, and of assembly plant operations for export purposes. We must reorganize the government structure to allow the country to function better.

Young students, our country must be organized. The coming elections will be a momentous occasion to reorganize our fatherland. Reorienting our Republic is an obligation.

We must diversify our economic relations through the foreign service. Truly, we must not confine ourselves to the exisitng markets. We must look for and try new markets, even if they belong to the socialist world -- always provided no attempt is made to use these trade relations to penetrate the Panamanian people politically and culturally -- in order to expand our markets.

[Barria] We see how this government is more interested in the employers, the landowners, and its big chief, the Yankee government. That is why it obeys its orders and imposes laws on us like the treaties and the alternate law [special labor legislation for Caribbean Basin Initiative purposes]. This government is well known as a persecutor of the Panamanian people.

Statistics concur in that there are more unemployed teachers. There are hundreds of unemployed professors and 200,000 illiterates. Many doctors have no jobs while thousands of Panamanians face the problem of lack of medical care. There are many idle architects and engineers while Yankees are brought here under the pretext that they are going to build roads when they are actually going to build military bases like the one at Arena de Quebro. [applause]

We have a treaty that was supposed to bring benefits to us. However, what good have all these things I have listed brought to the Panamanian people, when we are hungrier every day and the crisis plaguing our country is growing worse every day?

We tell you, Panamanian people, that our government will indeed make good use of the Panama Canal. Our government will indeed assign good functions to the banks, to the imperialist enterprises, and to the major capitalist enterprises. We are going to make them work for the Panamanian people. Therefore, we are going to nationalize the banks. We are going to nationalize the canal. [applause]

We are not going to give a single additional cent to the Defense Forces. We are going to establish enterprises in the countryside and in the cities to develop production, and we are going to close the garrisons. [applause]

[Esquivel] During the initial stage of its development, FREPU sought to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the elections to raise the problems of the poor and the workers from their own perspective. Howver, the dialogue and contacts with these same workers have led FREPU over a very short time span to evolve and to turn toward much more complex and permanent modes of organization and struggle.

The people themselves have helped us realize that the fundamental aspect of the crisis which the country is experiencing is not the elections or the isolated gains achieved by this or that sector of our society. We have verified that our people's fundamental problem stems from the fact that the people have been systematically kept out of power throughout our 80 years of republican life. We found that the true problem to be solved was that of organizing the poor people's and the workers' struggle for power.

We initially raised four struggle banners, which represented what we regarded as our fundamental objectives at that time. Those banners were: struggle for a people's democracy, struggle for national sovereignty, struggle for economic independence, and struggle for social justice. Even though these banners are still in full effect, we no longer regard them as our ultimate objectives. They constitute instead the fundamental tasks to be carried out by our people to attain and to build up their own power.

[Del Cid] In this statement on the economic and social aspects of our government program, we plan to specify some concepts that we believe are very important. As can be seen, we want to explain the problems and the solutions for them in this phase of the country's development, which we call the democratic phase of national liberation. As Marxist-Leninists, our final objective is to build a communist society in Panama. But the establishment of a socialist system that will subsequently be transformed into a communist regime is not and cannot be the result of a mere will to do this. It must respond instead to specific objectives and subjective conditions in the society. All of these conditions have yet to mature in the country. That is why we think that we must first pass through what we call the democratic phase of national liberation.

Due to its content, the Panamanian political structure demands an expanded, progressive, and participatory democracy that will not just be the expression of the interests of one class, but one that due to its specific significance will achieve the participation of the sectors interested in undertaking the progressive tasks. We call that political structure that has a historic, revolutionary, and multiclass scope the democratic front of national liberation, which would be made up of social forces such as the working class, the peasants, the small bourgeoisie in the urban and rural areas, the middle class, and the nationalist bourgeoisie. These would express themselves through various political and party organizations that represent their interests. This front will become a socially broad political structure due to its composition. It would have the task of giving economic, legal, institutional, and social shape to the state that will change social life within a system of progressive democracy.

The task of establishing this front has not been totally achieved. In fact, the variety in the current electoral struggle seems to show its postponement. But at this time, the historic challenge facing the Panamanian society is the establishment of this front because it is an objective necessity to better face the problems of economic and social underdevelopment and to develop the state and progressive democracy in Panama. Today and after the elections, this is the path that must be taken if one really wants democracy with popular participation, if one is on the side of peace, if one wants economic development, if real improvement of the working people's conditions is desired, and if one wants to prepare the path for deep structural changes and for social liberation and socialism.

For the PdP, the fundamental tasks for development must promote the elimination of socioeconomic underdevelopment and achieve greater independence. Direct attention to the basic problems of Panamanian underdevelopment must include the following strategic objectives:

1) Produce substantial changes in the distribution and redistribution of income in favor of workers and popular sectors;

2) Develop industrialization as a means of structural change;

3) Change the economic system of subsistence for more advanced forms of economic production and organization;

4) Promote the diversification of the country's international relations;

5) Strengthen the development of the national state with progressive democracy and ideological pluralism, stressing popular participation and planning.

[Zuniga] I come to tell the university students that this deeply national country, the country of democracy, the country of alternation in public office posts, the country of representative assembly, the country of respect for minorities, the country that we all desire, the country in which the majority decides the nation's destiny, that country has been systematically torpedoed since 1968 by the National Guard. [applause] That is the problem that should gather us here at this university, because as the saying goes everything else is child's play compared to the republic's fundamental problems, which is the intervention of the public force in national life. This is what prevents the establishment of a democratic process here. We talk about a democratic process and the purity of elections as the foundations of a true democracy and a true nation. However, we do not talk about the politicized nation, symbolized by an official candidacy that is backed by the military and came to life in the barracks. [applause]

We talk about the purity of the election, but it cannot really exist. The election, therefore, becomes a farce because the government funds and the civil servants are being used to favor the political and electoral interests of the government with the support of the military.

We cannot talk about an impartial electoral tribunal if it is undermined by actions directed toward the realization of a fraud. Fraud does not only mean to alter a vote; it goes beyond that. It implies the elimination of the people's will and decision, as is the case of the psychological coercion imposed on civil servants, who are forced to attend the government's portable demonstrations. This is the beginning of a fraud.

The excellent president of the Electoral Tribunal, who has devoted his life to teaching and has totally dedicated himself to his university professorship, this expert in constitutional law should warn the Panamanian nation and the university this very night that the electoral process cannot go on if there are no clean rules of the game for all.

[Question] Dr Ardito Barletta, what policy will you follow regarding the Central American crisis, the Contadora Group proposal, and the utilization of the military bases in Panamanian territory as a platform of aggression?

[Ardito Barletta] Regarding the question on foreign policy, I would like to say that I believe that Panama should continue participating in the Contadora Group with other Latin American nations that are willing to help the Central American countries find the path to peace, development, social justice, and respect for their borders, so that they will be allowed to restore a certain degree of confidence among themselves in order that they might not attack each other, which has not happened yet, but could; so that, first, they may be able to reduce the presence of foreign groups, whichever those might be, from whichever side or ideology they might be, and, second, that they may reduce their armies, which are a drain on the resources of those Central American countries which should be devoting their efforts to the social development of their peoples, which will really maintain peace.

In regard to the utilization of the U.S. military bases that exist in Panama the most important thing is that the letter and spirit of the Torrijos-Carter treaties be respected in the sense that those bases are there to defend the Panama Canal on a joint basis with Panama until the year 2,000, and that they serve no other purpose except the defense of the canal in accordance with a security policy drafted jointly between Panama and the United States.

[Question] General Paredes, [words indistinct] crisis in Central America and the Contadora Group versus U.S. imperialism?

[Paredes] In regard to the Contadora Group and the Central American matter, we firmly believe that the Contadora Group effort should continue but in a more realistic fashion. It must be reinforced. We must participate not as belligerent occupation forces but as a multinational force that can guarantee peace. This way the Contadora Group will finally be able to attain peace.

[Question] Mr Barria, since the military holds the real power, how do you plan to nationalize the Panama Canal and the banks, expropriate private businesses, and close down the military garrisons?

[Barria] We do not need the Defense Forces, first of all, because the Defense Forces are not defending us, they are defending U.S. imperialism. [applause] The Defense Forces come together to prepare...[changes thought] they allow military men to train here in order to go to crush the aspirations of the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan peoples, who wish to be free. I want to tell you that in Panama military men train not only to defend the interests of outdated structures, but also to defend the [word indistinct] interests.

We wish to denounce something that perhaps has not been revealed yet, and if it has been I am sure that you will join me in my protest. There is a Salvadoran refugee in Panama by the name of Flores who has been held incommunicado for the past 15 days. That is the role of the Defense Forces.

In regard to the treaties, that comes with our morning cup of coffee. [as heard] We have opposed and will continue to oppose the treaties because all they have done is to further surrender our sovereignty to U.S. imperialism. They have opened a loophole that allows them to train in Panama to later go to crush Central America. We will not obtain the canal through treaties, nor through laws, but through our struggle.

I would like to conclude by saying that there are two alternatives in regard to our foreign debt: Either we eat or we pay the debt. I want to say that I am very concerned about the fact that today Ardito Barletta, who was the one who imposed this debt on us, is joined by the Panamenists in wanting to pay that debt. The other candidates are also making friends with Ardito Barletta and telling him that if they are part of the government they will pay the debt. We say that that is not possible. We cannot pay that debt because it is coming out of the pockets of the Panamanian workers and people.

[Question] Dr Esquivel, what policy would you develop to control the transnationals? What position will FREPU take in regard to Central America and the Contadora Group?

[Esquivel] In regard to the policy to regulate the transnationals, I must say that it is a fact that the transnationals are here. However, Panamanian laws must be respected and the companies must be regulated. We believe that in the interest of bolstering the nation's capacity to create jobs, and as part of the need to achieve the greatest benefits for the Panamanians, we must review everything pertaining to the transnationals, which for such a long time have been reaping benefits from our workers and our country. I think it is time to change that attitude and seek the national benefit.

In regard to the problems in Central America, we have had the opportunity to see the problems of the Central American peoples, and we believe that the Contadora Group plan for peace should be promoted by Panama. Panama is a peace-loving nation, not a country of war. Contadora has opened the way to solve the problem correctly and humanely, not with destruction. We believe that Panama and all peace-loving nations should reinforce the Contadora Group's road to peace.

[Question] Dr Del Cid, what will your administration do in relation to the Central American crisis, specifically regarding the imminent danger of U.S. interventions in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala? What policy will you implement to regulate the transnationals?

[Del Cid] We of the People's Party support the positive aspects of the Torrijos-Carter treaties because they represent an advance. However, there are still things that must be improved within the treaties so that we may reach a true sovereignty and independence. That is why we pursue an international struggle.

Our diplomatic struggle must follow a policy of nonalignment so that we will not need to ask Washington to okay our foreign policy. We must praise the revolutionary process for having broken with the former policy and for having definitely enlisted us among the nonaligned states. That policy must continue because we foresee that in less than 16 years the occupation of the entire territory of Panama by [foreign] governments or states or units of the U.S. Army will cease. They must leave Panama, and if we do not follow a nonaligned policy we will end up alone or at least in limited company. As a matter of national and international security it is advisable for Panama to maintain and expand that policy because to do so is to guarantee the future of an independent and sovereign state. That will lead us to end what is left of the U.S. enclaves in the former Canal Zone.

Concerning the Central American crisis and the situation in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, we maintain that the Panamanian people, the Government, and the National Defense Forces must maintain a patriotic and vigilant posture in order to continue our policy of respect for the self-determination of the peoples and the independence of other nations. We must continue to support all the liberation movements in those countries, which will lead to their self-determination.

Regarding the transnationals, we have very clear guidelines on this. We clearly state that we do not oppose the existence of foreign capital. In this stage of development and in these difficult economic times Panamanians cannot discriminate against foreign investments.

[Question] Dr Zuniga, does your platform include the opening of diplomatic relations with socialist bloc nations?

[Zuniga] There is no doubt that within an authentic democratic state that defends its interests and acts according to them it is advisable to have diplomatic relations with the socialist nations. They will not harm the country as long as we do not allow that to happen.

For many years the National Guard has followed the policy created by McNamara in the United States of giving the Latin American national guards, those Latin American armies, a pleasant facade through civic actions.

Then there is a duplication of functions -- a public works ministry that constructs highways, and a national guard that constructs more highways; a public works ministry that constructs schools, and a national guard that constructs schools; a health ministry that takes doctors to different areas to cure the sick, and a national guard that includes a considerable number of doctors who have graduated from the university. Thus their profession is cheapened, and the university graduates must submit to this in order to survive in our society. They are caught up in these civic actions, they have to carry out functions that are not within the domain of a national guard. [applause]

What is even worse is that by virtue of the treasures that they claim the Torrijos-Carter treaties have brought us, a military alliance between Panama and the United States has been established. They have shaped the neutrality treaty into a military alliance that will give the National Guard increasing power. In order to rid ourselves of this militarism, we will have to get the U.S. citizens to shake off U.S. militarism as the only way to achieve better days for ourselves. We have to look at this situation sensibly. The leadership of the Panamanian state, which has an anti-democratic structure, makes full development of democracy impossible, and our youth do not have a clear awareness of the path to democracy, of the path that has to be followed.

To be a politician in our country is a very difficult task. However, our people will become increasingly ungovernable as long as entities such as the National Guard -- which for me is the focal point of all the democratic disruption -- are not kept at their headquarters and subjected to what we could call an authentic dependence on the Executive Branch. We want a National Guard that is not militaristic. We want a National Guard without authoritarianism. We want a National Guard that will fully comply with the mandates of the law and that will guarantee order within our borders, a decent National Guard. That is what we want for this country. [applause]

I want to make an observation. Our people cannot be deceived. The Panamanian people want a change, an authentic change, a change such as that promised by the People's Action Party, a real change. A change that will not lead to frustrations that will result in another coup within a few months because those leading the government do not guarantee a democratic process.

PAREDES ON C.A. SITUATION, DEFENSE FORCES

PA132331 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 0115 GMT 13 Apr 84

["Know Your Candidate" program video interview with General Ruben Dario Paredes, retired, presidential candidate of the Popular Nationalist Party and the Third Force, by moderator Jorge Concepcion, with invited journalists Migdalia Fuentes, of the newspaper LA PRENSA; Jose Franco, of the Renovacion Publishing Company, Inc; Marijulia Puyol, of Telemetro Television; and Juan Carlos Duque, of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Franco] General, there is another problem which I would call very serious, one of the most serious, and you pointed it out very clearly in your televised program. It is perhaps a problem that has not been given enough importance. It is that we Panamanians might find ourselves involved at any moment in a Central American war.

When you were commander you said, I remember more or less, that the Contadora Group was somewhat of a bureaucratic group, and it would not resolve any problems because the main actors in the drama had to sit down at the negotiation table, and we all know who they are. In your political platform how do you view the Contadora Group and the Central American problem?

[Paredes] Thank you, my friend Franco. The Contadora Group must be strengthened. The Contadora Group is a magnificient idea, but it is fading. It must be strengthened, as we told Mr Kissinger in a letter after he presented his report to Reagan. It must be strengthened perhaps with the countries of the Andean Pact. But even so, by themselves they cannot introduce the peace we all want for Central America.

We promote the idea, as we have reiterated, that Panama must continue to strengthen and participate in the Contadora Group, but Panama must not get involved in a belligerent manner with troops, as almost happened last week in a disguised maneuver. Panama must not reach that point. It must not compromise the country to that extent.

But I do believe that Panama must participate -- if it is permitted, and with other nations -- in a large peace force. I conceive of a large peace force as a tremendous civic action that reaches these countries -- for El Salvador, which is in great turmoil. It reaches El Salvador, guarantees a cease-fire and tranquillity, and then the Contadora Group goes in there to sit down with the conflicting parties to negotiate a civilized, political solution to end the bloodshed. Therefore, we visualize our government with diplomatic relations with all the countries of the world -- all the countries of the world. And with this I mean -- if the Panamanian people approved it in a plebiscite -- even Russia and communist China, if the Panamanian people approved it in a plebiscite; to have at least commercial relations with these two countries.

[Puyol] General Paredes, do you think that in the case of President De la Espriella the same thing occurred with Dr Aristides Royo? And, if so, could the Defense Forces act again to choose the new president of the Republic?

[Paredes] I do not think that the Defense Forces are in any position to act in the same manner, as occurred with former President De la Espriella. And the cases of Royo and De la Espriella are totally different.

[Duque] Gen Paredes, some analysts suggest that the Defense Forces show symptoms of weakness at this time. In view of this weakness, the government party was obliged to make political deals with nontraditional figures [as heard] within its ranks. If the government party does not retain power in the 6 May elections, and considering the possible weakness of the Defense Forces, do you consider it possible that there could be another coup d'etat, and could the country withstand another coup d'etat?

[Paredes] No way. The country could not withstand another coup e'tat. The Defense Forces, it is true, have been getting weaker. I do not mean the Forces as a whole; I refer to the top level, the heads. They have committed a series of errors, one after another. I believe they are maneuvering desperately with a desire to remain in power, in the political administration of the Republic. And this cannot continue; it is dangerous.

The new commanders are returning the Republic to the way it was when we took power in 1968. What is happening is a shame. It is an even greater shame that they are using the public force, the 15,000 men, for their political deals, which they have been forced to reach due to their weakness. I believe that the government -- and when I say government I mean civilians and military men -- lost political power months ago. They do manipulate it, but they have not held it for some 5 months. They lost it, and the people will place it in the hands they deem best this coming May.

[Franco] Gen Paredes, there is speculation on the street that you might reach a political pact. What group of the opposition would it be with?

[Paredes] I have reached an unbreakable electoral pact with the Panamanian people. I have no pact with the two traditional groups, the official party and the opposition. These two groups have already reached political pacts among themselves with the coalitions they have formed. We remain in alliance with the Panamanian people, in what we have named the Third Force, the people who have still not signed up with any party.

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT MONGE PLANS 11-NATION EUROPEAN VISIT

PA152024 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 3 Apr 84 p 4 A

[Excerpts] President Luis Alberto Monge will remain 1 month in Europe, during which he will visit 11 nations, according to official reports received by LA NACION yesterday. Monge will visit Switzerland, the FRG, Netherlands, France, Belgium, Italy, Vatican City, Austria, Great Britain, Liechtenstein, and Portugal. Spain was originally included in his tour, but apparently the prime minister of that country, Felipe Gonzalez, will not be able to receive him on the dates Monge had expected to visit.

The chief of state will leave for Zurich, Switzerland, on 30 or 31 May. He will remain until 4 June, when he will travel to the FRG. He will stay in the FRG for 6 days. According to information received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bonn, Monge and the German authorities will analyze bilateral relations, efforts of the Contadora Group to find a peaceful resolution to the conflicts in the isthmus, and ways to strengthen democracy in Costa Rica.

From there, Monge will leave for the Netherlands and will remain there until 9 June. Then he will continue on the Geneva, Switzerland, where on 12 June he will visit the seat of the International Labor Organization (ILO). On that same day, he will travel to France, where he will remain until 14 June. His next stop will be Belgium from 15 to 20 June where he will visit the seat of the EEC.

On 20 June he will arrive in Italy, and on 22 June he will visit the Vatican City where he will be received by Pope John Paul II. On 23 June, Monge will visit Venice. He is scheduled to arrive in Austria on 24 June. Two days later, on 26 June, he will leave for Great Britain. On 28 June, he will arrive in Portugal and on 30 June, he will return home. According to reports, the chief of state will use some of his free days on a weekend to visit Liechtenstein.

In all other nations to be visited by Monge, he will meet with heads of state and other officials. In addition, he will meet with political and business leaders. According to reports, there are three committees working rapidly on the preparations for the trip. In the next few days, an advance group will leave for the nations the president expects to visit to coordinate contacts with the private enterprise and the media.

EL SALVADOR

U.S. EMBASSY SALVADORAN SECURITY CHIEF KILLED

PA161437 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1418 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Alfredo Zapata, a Salvadoran police officer in charge of security at the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador, was murdered this morning in San Salvador. Zapata was shot several times by unidentified persons, who fired on him in his car from a taxi. The killing took place at 0645 today at an intersection of the Boulevard de los Heroes in northern San Salvador.

Zapata's wife was also shot in the back and side. She is in serious condition. One of the couple's daughters was also in the car, but was reportedly unharmed. Alfredo Zapata, the former chief of criminal investigations of the National Police, was at the time chief of security at the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador.

Further on Killing

PA162119 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1420 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Report by Nelson Lopez]

[Text] Shortly before 0700, 1 hour ago, retired officer Alfredo Zapata, who was in charge of the U.S. Embassy's security as well as that of El Salvador's Sheraton Hotel, was shot to death. According to what we have learned, Zapata was on his way to the U.S. Embassy via Los Heroes Boulevard when some individuals in an unidentified vehicle shot him several times, killing him instantly near the Camino Real Hotel. Some people say that the individuals were able to escape in their vehicle.

We will repeat the information. Retired officer, Alfredo Zapata, in charge of security at the U.S. Embassy and the Sheraton Hotel, was shot to death. He was killed near the Camino Real Hotel on Los Heroes Boulevard when a traffic signal turned red and Zapata had to stop his car. He was shot to death from another vehicle.

ELECTORAL OFFICIALS ON RUNOFF PREPARATIONS

PA161713 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 16 Apr 84

["Meet the Press" feature, from YSKL's "Sunday News Focus" program, with Central Electoral Council, CCE, President Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal, and CCE member Eliseo Rovira Mixco -- live]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified announcer] Friends, with us today on "Meet the Press" we have two guests: Eliseo Rovira Mixco, member, and Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal, president, of the Central Electoral Council [CCE]. We have invited them to talk about the decision of the Legislative Assembly to eliminate the voter registries, which has caused some problems in the CCE. Mr Rovira Mixco, we would like the public to know what you have done today, Sunday, in San Salvador, as thousands of Salvadorans are already enjoying their Easter week holidays. Welcome to the show.

[Rovira Mixco] Thank you. I wish to greet the Salvadoran people. Although it is already close to 1830, I am willing to anwer your questions.

We worker today, Sunday, in view of the upcoming 6 May elections. Today we toured the entire city of San Salvador, personally relocating and confirming the location of the polls and the number of polls necessary for each area, in order to avoid crowding during the election. As you know, most of the problems of 25 March were due to the fact that many persons reported that the voter registries encumbered the smooth development of the voting. This is not true. The voter registries worked well despite some problems. Most people were able to vote without major problems, with the exception of some areas. The reason for the long lines of voters at some polls is that the members of the vote count committee simply did not show up at their positions.

We had said several times in the press and over the radio that 90 percent of the success of an election depended on the vote count committees and not the CCE. The other 10 percent of responsibility was in the hands of the municipal and departmental boards and the CCE. Actually, the CCE and the municipal and departmental boards do not have direct contact with the voters. The vote count committees do.

The misplacement of so many ballot boxes and the other poll equipement was a well planned act of sabotage. Whether it was intentional or not, the fact is that it was very successful. We know that we made several mistakes in the location of certain polls. We have that under control now. Together with Dr Amaya and Dr Belloso, we visited some 50 different places today, confirming or rejecting locations and verifying the number of polls.

[Announcer] We spoke to Dr Rodriguez Eguizabal yesterday afternoon for appoximately half an hour, and he gave us his view on the elimination of the voter registries. We would like to know your opinion as a member of the CCE.

[Rovira Mixco] I have Decree No 74, article 2 in front of me right now. In letter "H" is specifies that in order to vote in the second round of elections, the voter will only need to submit his personal identity card to the vote count committee. To this effect, paragraph C of article 5 is void, as well as the requirement of appearing on the voting list stipulated in paragraph C of article 34 of this law. These provisions are the ones that most affect us. I do not understand the measure, but then that is a prerogative of the Legislative Assembly, which is the highest lawmaking body. We only implement the law. This paragraph goes against everything we have worked on for the last 1 and 1/2 years. However, that is a very personal opinion and does not reflect the opinion of the CCE.

[Announcer] What will you decide if the president of the republic does not veto this measure? Will you resign and leave the election in the air?

[Rodriguez Eguizabal] We are urging the people to take conscience and put aside party interests, which have dominated the Legislative Assembly for so long. We have indeed thought of resigning from the CCE. I believe that if the president does not veto the measure as we have asked him to do, the CCE will then make a decision. I believe that in a country like El Salvador, which is taking its first steps in democracy, actions like these respond to personal ambitions for power and not to the democratic weakness of El Salvador.

[Announcer] Thank you, Dr Rodriguez Eguizabal, as well as the phone callers, for their participation.

ARENA SAYS U.S. AID NOT LINKED TO ELECTIONS

PA140338 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 13 Apr 84 pp 15, 75

[Excerpts] "The Christian Democratic Party, PDC, has always lied when it comes to U.S. aid," Hugo Barrera, vice presidential candidate of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, told newsmen yesterday. The comment was made in response to a report published in yesterday's edition of EL DIARIO DE HOY on the posture of the U.S. Embassy in regard to the U.S. aid to El Salvador after the 6 May election. On different occasions leaders of the PDC have said that if ARENA wins the elections the United States will suspend its aid to El Salvador. The U.S. Embassy has denied such reports.

Barrera said that all the U.S. Embassy has done is to echo the position of President Reagan, who through his representatives (or special envoys) such as Mr Shultz has said that the aid is not conditioned to who wins the election. "The Salvadoran people's choice of either Roberto D'Aubuisson or Napoleon Duarte as president should under no circumstance be a pretext or a reason for the United States to suspend the aid to El Salvador," Barrera said. Barrera added that "the aid can be suspended if conditions are not met, but that rule will always be in effect." "This confirms that the United States will not suspend its aid, no matter who wins," Barrera added.

PDC CITES AD CRITICISM OF ARENA POSITIONS

PA140432 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 13 Apr 84 p 73

[Paid advertisement published by the Christian Democratic Party's political committee]

[Text] A Vote for ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] Is a Vote for the Guerrillas

Yesterday we published a statement that was first published by the Democratic Action Party [AD] on the last day of the political campaign for the first electoral round. It is vitally important due to the Salvadoran people's decision regarding the 6 May elections. One of the most important parts of the AD statement said: "During the current electoral campaign, ARENA has been mainly using terms that praise bloodshed, tombs, and violence as the means to achieve peace, thus appealing to the lowest feelings: fanaticism, hate, and revenge."

We wish to recall ARENA's arrogant and insolent attitude toward all the political parties or leaders who do not submit to its will. AREANA's first action is to accuse them of treason, because ARENA members believe they are the only ones who are right. Then they invent an accusation to justify a violent and dangerous reaction, such as the accusations made against leaders of several political parties, saying they were communists, especially the PCN [National Conciliation Party] and PDC [Christian Democratic Party] presidential candidates. Finally, ARENA resorts to threats. Most of them are veiled, but some are made openly, publicly, as is well known. The highly dangerous aspect of ARENA's viewpoint is that it is telling us in an antidemocratic way that if ARENA reaches power it will put an end to everything and everyone that does not obey its orders.

The AD statement said further, referring to D'Aubuisson: "... it is well known that his image and reputation abroad do not earn him other nations' respect and support. We increasingly need this support and respect in the struggle we are carrying out against totalitarian guerrilla forces." "The people should known, as the Salvadoran Armed Forces know, that our struggle would end in less than 1 month without foreign aid, specifically without the U.S. Government's military aid." The AD statement concluded: "... Major Roberto D'Aubuisson's accession to the presidency would not exactly help us receive this much needed aid; on the contrary, this might leave without any support."

If we are left without military and economic aid, against guerrillas supported by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and Nicaragua -- and with a government persecuting its political enemies -- the danger would be so great that we repeat what AD said: "A vote for ARENA is a vote for the guerrillas."

We add that a vote for Jose Napoleon Duarte is a vote for strengthening the cooperation of all democratic countries in the world and will help El Salvador's economic recovery and strengthen the Armed Forces.

Vote for democracy. Vote for life and liberty. Vote green.

POP ANNOUNCES SUPPORT OF PDC IN RUNOFF ELECTION

PA130656 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0325 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Apr (DPA) -- El Salvador's Popular Orientation Party, POP, today made public its support for the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] in the second electoral round to take place on 6 May. The PDC is "the closest to the POP's economic and social platform, both in its goals and in its well defined economic strategies," the party's leadership reported. The decision was made after the Salvadoran electoral process was reviewed at a recent national convention. The PDC's presidential and vice presidential candidates are Jose Napoleon Duarte and Rodolfo Castillo Claramount.

POLICE CHIEF ALARMED BY NICARAGUA ARMS BUILDUP

PA140404 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 13 Apr 84 pp 2, 37

[Excerpts] "Although there is no clear indication that Nicaragua is preparing to sponsor a large-scale terrorist offensive in El Salvador, the excess of armaments and war supplies that Nicaragua has been stocking up for several days is alarming." This comment was made by Colonel Nicolas Carranza, director of the Treasury Police, when queried about international reports that the Sandinist government has recently been stocking up on enormous amounts of war supplies and armaments in general without a logical explanation. The reports indicate that the supplies have come from the USSR and other "iron curtain" countries via Cuba.

"All of Central America and perhaps other nearby countries are concerned about this buildup because there is no clear reason for it," Carranza added. Regarding El Salvador, Col Carranza said the Armed Forces will continue to combat with all their might the Nicaraguan-supplied clandestine organizations that are intent on disrupting public order.

'U.S. ADVISERS' HELP CONCEAL GUAZAPA MASSACRE

PA131410 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Excerpt] We have received information from the country's central area that the dictatorship has carried out a new massacre of civilians in the Guazapa Hill area. We have learned so far that about 69 people have been murdered by the Salvadoran Army. [passage indistinct] According to preliminary reports received at Radio Venceremos, 13 members of a single family named Aleman from (La Caja) canton were captured, tortured, and [words indistinct]. Paratroopers left the 13 bodies on the road leading from (El Cajon) to Colima. It was also indicated that paratroopers, who moved to El Sitio Hill, murdered another 20 civilians, including a professor. Later, on U.S. advisers' orders, paratroopers burned the bodies during the afternoon in an effort to eliminate all evidence. One of the survivors of this massacre is a child who bears the wounds and blows inflicted by Salvadoran troops advised and financed by the U.S. Government.

VENCEREMOS TERMS DUARTE 'ENEMY OF WORKERS'

PA160006 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] On television today we saw Napoleon Duarte in one of his propaganda farces. He was shown visiting several construction workers at their job site, pretending to be a friend of the workers, interested in their situation and in resolving their problems. Duarte only goes near the workers, however, to seek their vote. Where was Duarte between 1972 and 1979, when the workers were repressed and persecuted? He was enjoying a life of comfort and luxury in Venezuela. Duarte and the high-ranking leaders of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] were accomplices in the repression of the workers.

During the PDC government, leaders of STECEL [Union of Electrical Workers of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Committee] were sent to prison and today, after several years, they are still being held in the dictatorship's jails.

Under Duarte's government thousands of Salvadoran workers were sent to prison, tortured, and murdered. Under Duarte's government many unions were attacked, and the organized labor movement was viciously persecuted. Duarte, as president, represented the bloody repression of the workers, and this is why we, the workers, know that he is our enemy and that in the electoral farce, which does not represent a resolution to the country's problems, he is the Gringo's candidate, the candidate of foreign intervention.

Following the Gringos' propaganda advice, Duarte is trying to show himself as the man who will solve the problems of the workers -- as if it were easy to forget that Napoleon Duarte was the man who froze the worker's wages and condemned thousands of Salvadorans to hunger and misery. It was precisely during Duarte's government that the standard of living of the Salvadoran people worsened due to uncontrolled increases in the prices of food, clothes, shoes, and transportation. This is why Duarte, the puppet of Yankee intervention, is the enemy of the working class.

Ronald Reagan, the Gringo intervenor, is concerned about giving Napoleon Duarte an image of reconciler, of a great statesman, and of a friend of dialogue. But during these past few years, during which Duarte, in various ways, has been sharing power, his dialogue has been one of blood. He offered reforms amid the brutal massacre of thousands of peasants.

Duarte is an enemy of the working class; he is an enemy of the Salvadoran people, and he made this evident during all these years in which he shared power.

Salvadorans, in the face of Reagan's interventionist plans, we need to strengthen the worker's organization, and because the electoral farce is not the solution, we must all strengthen the people's struggle. The electoral farce has no value for our people, since it does not represent a hope for the resolution of the serious problems affecting the country. However, the electoral farce does represent a greater military intervention in El Salvador. The U.S. plan, Ronald Reagan's plan, is to place a puppet like Napoleon Duarte in the presidency who, using the pretext of defending democracy, will request more planes and bombs to massacre the people -- more bombs to murder Salvadorans in their fields. The U.S. plan is to put a puppet like Duarte in the presidency who, using the pretext of defending democracy, will request the invasion of Yankee troops the moment the puppet army begins to crumble definitely in the face of the people's advance. Duarte will be the obedient puppet in the hands of a dangerous madman like Reagan. Napoleon Duarte has been called on to sell his homeland in exchange for a few crumbs of power. That is the Duarte whom the North Americans are attempting to present before the world as an alternative in El Salvador.

Salvadorans, in the face of Reagan's interventionist plans, strengthen the workers organization, and because the electoral farce is not the solution, we must all strengthen the people's struggle. Reagan's aggressive plans are not stopping, nor is our struggle. We will fight before, during, and after the electoral farce, Salvadorans, to win.

FMLN-FPL OCCUPIES STATION, BROADCASTS MESSAGE

PA132355 San Salvador Radio El Mundo in Spanish 1530 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Message of the FMLN-Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces, FPL, dated 1 April, on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the FPL; read by Commander Leonel Gonzalez, first secretary of the FPL Central Committee and commander of the FPL armed forces; broadcast during a takeover of Radio El Mundo by FPL guerrillas on 13 April -- recorded.

[Excerpts] Inspired by the example of Agustin Farabundo Marti and the teachings of the 1932 insurrection, the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces, FPL, today, 1 April 1984, celebrates its 14th year of difficult but victorious struggle, contributing along with the sister revolutionary organizations in leading our people toward the achievement of their definite independence, freedom, and social justice. The road covered during these 14 years has not been easy. We have had to face an enemy equipped, financed, and directed by Yankee imperialism, which has spared no efforts in its attempt to weaken and annihilate us. However, it has failed to achieve its goal. The FPL, together with its sister organizations, has developed and consolidated as we have firmly advanced in the development of the decisive battles to occupy power. This advance and consolidation can be explained by the fact that our struggle is just, and we therefore have the total support of the people and their unbreakable decision to win.

The FPL, as part of our people's vanguard the FMLN, and together with the FMLN, has actively contributed to face and to defeat, one after another, the political and military plans that imperialism and the puppet dictatorship have implemented in an attempt to make the political-military struggle waged by our people move backward.

The Reagan administration, aware that its attempts to repress the Salvadoran people in their struggle for their goals have failed, has now increased its steps toward intervention. It has increased military aid. It has sent U.S. troops to Honduras and to the border between Honduras and our country. It has also sent aircraft carriers to the Central American coast, mounting a strategic cordon against El Salvador and Nicaragua. It has increased spy flights. It has sponsored an electoral farce that was directed from the Yankee embassy. The purpose of the electoral farce was to create a political cover for a greater escalation of the military intervention in El Salvador.

But the Reagan administration and its henchmen are wrong if they think that with warmongering arrogance they will be able to hold back the advance of the Salvadoran revolution. Our people have prepared to face and defeat the aggressor. The Salvadoran revolutionaries are more united each day, and we firmly advance toward the consolidation of unity. The Salvadoran people created their own revolutionary armed forces, which is the guarantee of the defeat of the puppet army and the defense of what has already been achieved.

Thousands of women and men have joined the people's forces in the controlled areas. They are fighting against the dictatorship and practicing a real popular democracy. Above all, the Reagan administration, the oligarchs, and their puppet dictatorship must not forget that the revolutionary forces have the total support of the people because we represent the interests of the exploited and oppressed in our homeland. This is the main guarantee for a victory.

On this occasion the Central Committee sends a revolutionary message to the working class, to the peasants, to the students and other popular sectors, to the sister organizations, to the leaders and combatants of the (?FAPL) [People's Liberation Armed Forces], to the people's forces who are building the bases of the new homeland, and to the members of our organization who with self-sacrifice, enthusiasm, and discipline carry out their political and military tasks.

We reaffirm before the people, our combatants, and the FMLN sister organization our determination to struggle to achieve the immediate and basic needs of our people. We reiterate our determination to struggle against the Yankee imperialists and the puppet dictatorship and to achieve a provisional government of broad participation. [passage indistinct]

Radio Takeovers Detailed

PA152227 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 13 Apr 84 p 36

[Text] Members of the People's Liberation Forces, FPL, today took over five San Salvador radio stations to broadcast an FPL "14th Anniversary" message. In a telephone call made to EL MUNDO, the stations were identified as: Radio Cadena Central, Radio International, Radio Centroamericana, Radio El Mundo, and Radio La Exquisita.

Personnel at one of these radio stations said that the takeover was carried out by four men armed with submachine guns. The source said that the employees were not harmed. A second caller to EL MUNDO identified himself as a member of the PRTC [Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers], which belongs to the FMLN, and claimed PRTC responsibility for last night's dynamite attacks. Electricity towers were blown up last night in the area of the Government Center, leaving large sectors of the capital city in darkness.

CHALATENANGO 'PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT' OFFICIAL NAMED

PA142301 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] New representatives of the subregional government of the people's power have been elected. Our representatives in Chalatenango Department were elected to the people's government on Monday. As a result of the elections, which are an expression of democracy, our Companero Andres has been appointed president of the subregional government for 1 year. Tomorrow, Saturday the 13th [as heard], we will announce the government program of the people's power in this department of Chalatenango.

GUATEMALA

INVESTIGATION ON MISSING PERSONS ORDERED

PA141950 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 13 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice yesterday asked the government minister to report on the whereabouts of more than 100 missing persons for whom the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission (headquartered in Mexico), has filed a writ of habeas corpus. The Government Ministry must inform the Court as soon as possible whether these persons have been arrested by security forces, and if they are being detained in any of the country's jails. Interior Minister Gustavo Adolfo Lopez Sandoval yesterday said that as soon as he received the court's notification, he immediately conveyed it to all police corps under his jurisdiction.

A Judge Should Be Appointed

Lopez Sandoval said the Supreme Court of Justice should appoint a lower court judge to verify the physical presence of the prisoners in their alleged place of confinement.

Only Unknown Persons

Lopez Sandoval said that the list he had received from the Supreme Court of Justice has only the names of unknown persons. He added that none of the persons listed had any previous police record of a political nature. The only familiar name on the list is that of Jorge Calvo Bravo, who has already been released, he added. Lopez Sandoval said these requests are an attempt by this human rights commission in Mexico to further deteriorate Guatemala's image abroad.

HONDURAS

SUAZO CORDOVA, LOPEZ REYES SPEAK AT AIR FORCE EVENT

PA161939 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Speeches by President Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova and Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Walter Lopez Reyes at an event marking the 53d anniversary of the Air Force, held on 14 April at Air Force Headquarters in Tegucigalpa -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Suazo Cordova] The recent developments which are already known to the public -- I am referring to the reorganization carried out in the Armed Forces' cadres and command, in what constituted an essentially internal action falling within the exclusive purview of this institution -- deserve our recognition and that of the entire nation. It is of great significance that the officers who comprise our Armed Forces have reiterated their loyalty and willingness to abide by the national Constitution and the rules of institutionality that uphold the democratic regime over which I preside.

One can only praise the maturity and level of professionalism achieved by our Armed Forces when, with great integrity, its commander in chief states on his behalf and that of his comrades-in-arms that they do not regard the constitutional principles calling for an apolitical and nondeliberative stand, professionalism, and obedience as empty expressions of legal (?routines), but as the most responsible way to generate normalcy in a harmonious, peaceful, quite, secure, and permanent society. The Armed Forces have displayed similar firmness and determination in not allowing themselves to be penetrated by the network of intrigues and speculations that has tried to disrupt their unity.

With profound civic conviction, I again stress that the best way to respond to the internal and external organized violence is by strengthening and enforcing the freedoms we have achieved with our entire people's support.

Our commitment to defend our democratic values remains unchanged, as does our determination to preserve (?that which is just), as well as our social peace, and to enforce respect for our sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as the basic right to be born and live in a climate of freedom and justice that can generate confidence and democracy.

[Lopez Reyes] As you already know, on 4 April the sovereign National Congress elected me chief of the Honduran Armed Forces. I assumed this responsibility on the 5th, when I was sworn in by the honorable president of the Congress at the legislative chamber.

I am aware of the serious responsibility bestowed on me and, on assuming it, I promised to myself that I would carry it out loyally, with professional efficiency and authentic patriotism, inspired by the noblest ideals that my country's heroes instilled in me during my military career.

It is my purpose to strengthen the morale and desire to serve the members of our homeland's Armed Forces. All of my actions will be based on the strictest justice and on the discipline imposed by the national Constitution and the constitutive law of the Armed Forces.

My Christian convictions have strengthened my spirit and have turned me into a lover of truth. I have always placed my duties of state ahead of any personal interest. I have never tolerated indiscipline, duplicity, negligence, or any other immoral stand that runs contrary to the spirit of a professional military man aware of his civic duties toward the homeland and [words indistinct].

You, today's soldiers, have seen that in this sacred institution they teach us to serve the homeland with our uniforms, our arms, our books, our work tools, and our combat shoes, with which we have always defended the country's integrity and our people's sovereignty. Our fraternal branches, which comprise the glorious Honduran Armed Forces, have always maintained a single unity of efforts and aspirations, thus showing the authentic virtues of a soldier: courage, desire to excel, patriotism, fervor for the service, brotherhood, confidence, zeal, talent, and respect for the Constitution and other laws.

NICARAGUA

WORLD COURT TO STUDY COMPLAINT AGAINST U.S.

PA170332 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] The Hague -- Tomorrow the 15 magistrates of the International Court of Justice [ICJ] will study, behind closed doors, Nicaragua's complaints of U.S. support for activities hostile to the Managua government. In addition, Nicaragua has requested that the tribunal take temporary measures such as ordering a stop to U.S. support for anti-Sandinist rebels while awaiting a final decision, which might take too long. The ICJ president has issued a request that the implementation of such temporary measures not be prevented. This appeal refers to the United States, the country that recently announced that it will not acknowledge the authority of the International Court's ruling regarding Central America. It has been announced that the United States has appointed a representative to the ICJ. His name is Davis Robinson, of the U.S. Department of State.

U.S. 'GUNBOAT POLICY' SAID TO BE 'SINKING FAST'

PA130616 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Apr 84

["Beyond the News Reports" feature]

[Text] The state terrorism policy of the Reagan administration against Nicaragua is sinking fast. The anachronistic gunboat policy, symbolized by the old battleship New Jersey, is being dragged down by complete moral bankruptcy. And it is the small but courageous nation of Nicaragua, with its heroic and dignified stand, that is making the arrogant imperialist ship sink.

Nicaragua is not only defeating imperialism in the moral arena, but in the legal arena as well, in such a way that in desperation bordering on panic the U.S. Government is now resorting to the most absurd, insane, and unacceptable maneuvers to save itself from totally foundering. Clear evidence of this is its inadmissible, unilateral decision to ignore the ruling of the international court at The Hague. In fact, the U.S. Government promptly notified the secretary general of the United Nations, of which the international court is a subordinate organization, that it did not recognize the court's jurisdiction over any disputes between the United States and any Central American country for a period of 2 years.

What does this mean? Or to make the question more explicit, can the United States do this? The answer is no, simply no. Why? Because the International Court of Justice at The Hague, as it is known -- or should we say unknown, in view of the arrogant attitude assumed by imperialism -- is one of the six principal organizations of the United Nations.

Now then, according to the statutes of the court, all UN members, without exception -- in this case the United States -- are subject to the statutes. Besides, the court's jurisdiction comprises all complaints brought up by the parties -- in this case, Nicaragua. It must also be taken into account that in the case of a dispute over the court's jurisdiction, it will be up to the court itself to decide, and not one of the parties. Obviously, there would be no sense in resorting to a court that had no jurisdiction.

What is at stake, therefore, is something very important to mankind. As Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has said, Nicaragua is not only defending its own right to self-determination, it is also defending the existence of an international juridical order, without which there can be no peace. Thus the importance of the situation stems from the fact that for the first time in modern history a small nation is forcing a world power to sit at the defendant's table for its crimes against mankind.

PROTEST TO COSTA RICA OVER CONTRA ACTIVITIES

'Urgent Measures' Asked

PA170254 Paris AFP in Spanish 0220 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Managua, 16 Apr (AFP) -- The Sandinist government today denounced the "open utilization" of Costa Rican territory by part of the counterrevolutionary forces who occupied San Juan del Norte last weekend.

In a note issued tonight the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry asked the Costa Rican Government to adopt "urgent measures to prevent the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) from continuing to compromise its territory and the neutrality" proclaimed by President Luis Alberto Monge.

For his part, Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco flatly denied tonight that the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) had occupied the port of San Juan del Norte in the southeastern part of the country. Tinoco affirmed that "San Juan del Norte has not been and will not be in the hands of ARDE," although he noted that there is fierce fighting under way there and that the Sandinist Army had to send reinforcements to the region. The deputy foreign minister's statement contrasted with reports by the New Nicaragua News Agency (official) which admitted the occupation of San Juan del Norte by Eden Pastora's guerrillas.

Foreign Ministry Communique

PA170403 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0314 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Foreign Ministry communique dated 16 April, Managua: read by Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco -- live or recorded]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Nicaragua makes it known that:

The Costa Rican Government was notified in notes No 063 and 066 dated 10 and 11 April of this year that beginning on 6 April 1984 mercenary groups coming from Costa Rica initiated a series of attacks against the border post of San Juan del Norte in Rio San Juan Department. In the last few days more than 500 men were launched from their bases in Costa Rica against the garrison of this border post. The overt use of the Costa Rican territory has been increasing, to the extent that several hospitals and first aid stations in Costa Rica, in towns like Ciudad Quesada and Barra del Colorado, are at the present time practically working for the aggressor mercenary forces.

The Costa Rican Government was notified in notes No 063 and 066 dated 18 April [as heard] that on 6 April 1984 mercenary groups coming from Costa Rica initiated a series of attacks against the border post of San Juan del Norte in Rio San Juan Department. In the last few days more than 500 men were launched from their bases in Costa Rica against the garrison of this border post. The overt use of Costa Rican territory has been increasing, to the extent that several hospitals and first aid stations in Costa Rica, in towns like Ciudad Quesada and Barra del Colorado, are at the present time practically working for the aggressor mercenary forces.

The use of many planes and helicopters has been evident in support of the attackers of the border post. These aircraft arrive from Costa Rican airports and landing strips. Many boats and ships have also been used on the nearby rivers and the ocean. These vessels also come from Costa Rica. In spite of several insistent appeals that we have made to the Costa Rican Government to, according to its international obligations, exert control over its border areas with Nicaragua, eliminate and disarm the mercenary forces established in that country in order to prevent the continuation of the attacks, and enforce the neutrality proclaimed by the Costa Rican Government, these requests have so far been futile. The attacks have not only continued, but have actually increased in terms of the number of men and weapons. Therefore, the Nicaraguan Government has exhorted the Costa Rican Government to adopt immediately urgent measures to prevent the U.S. Government, through the Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, from continuing to compromise Costa Rican territory and neutrality, as well as to stop the escalation of the aggressions against our territory and thereby avoid an aggravation of the already-delicate situation existing in this sector.

Managua, 16 April 1984

DANIEL ORTEGA SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO CHERNENKO

PA131653 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Message sent to Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, on 11 April, place not given]

[Text] On behalf of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, of the FSLN, and of the Nicaraguan people, I enthusiastically congratulate you on the occasion of your election today, 11 April, as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Fraternally,

Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

JUDGES MEET IN 'FIRST NATIONAL CONGRESS'

Addressed by Borge

PA131750 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0127 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Closing speech by Interior Minister Tomas Borge at the First National Congress of Nicaraguan Judges at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua 9-12 April -- live]

[Excerpts] The imperialist aggression against Nicaragua compels us to refer specifically to the topic of war. There has been talk of justice in time of war, as if we were speaking about the war of the galaxies. Is it not understood that we are in the midst of a war? It is not a war against the National Guard, but against an army of mercenaries of the all-powerful lord of the White House, who thinks that he is a divinely endowed with special powers to decide Nicaragua's destiny.

Although the majority of the members of Mr Reagan's army of mercenaries belonged to the National Guard, these have been armed and trained at the highest levels, never before experienced by the praetorian army of Somoza. It is a mercenary army with enormous logistical support, with electronic espionage methods, and with a capacity to interfere with our communications; an army with ships, aircraft, and helicopters that violate our waters and our airspace. To what justice in time of war are we referring to?

The burning of Corinto is not an act of war? What is the mining of our ports if not an act of war? It is a war that has caused incommensurate losses to our fishing industry and our agriculture-livestock production in border regions. And what about the peasant cooperatives that were razed, as were the schools, warehouses, and bridges that were destroyed? During the months of January and February alone, the material losses inflicted by Mr Reagan's mercenaries added up to more than 280 million cordobas, which, added to the previous losses, give us a total of more than 2.5 billion cordobas as a result of the aggression.

And if we add to this the cost of defense, deployment and transportation of the troops and militiamen, the profits we stopped receiving, the cost of detouring the ships, we could certainly come up with an astronomic figure. And if we count the cost of our dead, who are priceless, of course, we could surely file suit against the U.S. Government for thousands of millions of dollars, just as they did for the dead and hostages they had in Iran.

Is the sacrifice of 200 [corrects himself] 219 militants killed in defending their fatherland only in the past weeks, added to the 204 wounded, an act of war or not?

During World War I Great Britain fought with its Armies in the European continent, not on its own territory, but it was like a country in a state of war. The same occurred with the United States. The Soviet Union's territory was partly occupied by the Nazi Army, but the whole country was in a state of war.

We speak here of a zone of war. There is only one war zone, which is called Nicaragua. All of us Nicaraguans are at war against imperialism and its mercenary army.

As was explained only a few hours ago by the Army chiefs and by the Interior Ministry at a press conference, in the past weeks there has been an increase in the aggression that has acquired sinister, dangerous proportions.

In this offensive, the largest mounted to date, there are more than 8,000 mercenaries of the CIA participating inside the country. And many groups have even entered central regions of Nicaragua. Fighting is under way in the Departments of Matagalpa, Jinotega, Nueva Segovia, northern Zelaya, southern Zelaya, and we still doubt that this is a time of war?

For this operation the CIA is employing an enormous apparatus of logistical support and is maintaining a steady supply of arms, ammunition, foodstuffs, information, and communication for its mercenary army. During the past few weeks we have detected 18 electronic espionage flights and dozens of other flights to supply the mercenaries.

We are in a state of war against an invading force, organized and directed by the most powerful power of the capitalist world. No one any longer has the slightest doubt about the U.S. Government's participation in this mercenary invasion.

The U.S. senators who approved $21 million in aid to increase the war against Nicaragua in the past few days blush today over the mining of the ports. And what did these senators -- not all of them, because there are some exceptions, such as Mr Kennedy -- think, that those millions would be used to plant flower beds and vegetable patches in our fertile lands? They are alarmed at the world-wide repudiation of the mining of the ports, but are not ashamed by the mourning, the bloodshed, and tears of a people who have never done the North Americans the slightest harm, yet are the victims of their complicity in the crime organized by their government against a people whose only crime is to seek justice and peace.

The defense needs thousands, thousands of millions of uniforms and boots. It requires foodstuffs and medicine for the thousands and thousands of combatant youths. Necessarily, our battalions involved in the direct confrontation have had supplies directed to them. This has also meant that many of the country's development projects have been severely affected by this criminal aggression. We have stopped constructing homes, hospitals, schools; we have stopped building recreation centers; we have stopped building highways and roads.

That is what the enemies of Nicaragua intend to do: to destabilize, to create unrest among the people. And when I say the enemies of Nicaragua, I refer not only to the masters who order, but the trained dogs who bark by remote control and who are sitting atop our difficulties and deprivations suffered by our peoples and are promoting internal campaigns with podiums, papers, radios, and direct propaganda, attributing to the revolution a problem of security which is a direct cause of the aggression. Imperialism and its (?thugs) hurt and then blame their victims for their wounds. It is a violation of the most elementary principles of justice and logic to place the burden of the deprivations and risks on the combatants and the inhabitants of the war-torn regions. The effort, the sacrifice, saving, austerity, and revolutionary zeal must be shared by all of us Nicaraguans. Whoever does not accept this reality is not worthy of being called a Nicaraguan.

The patriotic military service must recruit not only workers and peasants, but also youths from all the social strata, because we are defending not only the rights of the peasants and workers, but the interests of all the nation.

Companeros, we are not alone in this struggle. All the peoples of the world are alongside the Nicaraguan people. Many governments of all continents and all ideologies have expressed support for the righteousness of our cause.

We are certainly paying a high cost to defend our fatherland, but our enemies will pay the price of a historic defeat, of unforeseeable consequences -- perhaps the price of eliminating the injustice that still prevails in the impoverished paths of Latin America. We will emerge victorious in this challenge, defeating the enemies of the people in ideological and military confrontation. We will also emerge victorious in the face of all obstacles and difficulties. We will emerge victorious in the plan to institutionalize the revolutionary process, just as we will emerge victorious in building a new society.

Issue Resolution Condemning U.S.

PA131222 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0127 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Resolution issued at the closing session of the First National Congress of Nicaraguan Judges, held at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua, 9-12 April 1984, read by Dr (Maria Esperanza Nieto), judge of the Leon Criminal Court -- live]

[Text] Resolution

We, the Nicaraguan judges who attended the First National Congress, Sandino's 50th Anniversary, held in Managua 9-12 April 1984:

Whereas:

1. The U.S. Government secretly or impudently, ignoring its own Constitution and laws, encourages, sponsors, advises, and supports the military, economic, political, and ideological aggressions that the remaining Somozist guardsmen, mercenaries, and other counterrevolutionaries and traitors carry out by giving them funds, war equipment, military training, and logistic and technical support.

2. That with these acts of aggression and genocide against Nicaragua the U.S. Government violates Article 2, paragraph 4, of the UN Charter; Articles 1, 2, and 3 [passage indistinct].

3. That in violation of its own Constitution and laws, it engages in a blockade of our coast and the mining of our ports; it violates our air space and territorial waters; and it indirectly carries out all kinds of threats and aggression against Nicaragua.

4. In doing so, the United States has violated and continues to violate the territorial integrity of our country, threatening our self-determination, our political independence, and the freedom of our seas and our international trade in open violation of the norms included in Articles 1, 2, and 5 of the Treaty of Tlaltelolco; Article 34 of the Letter of Bogota; Articles 4, 6, 7, 27, and 32 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States; Articles 17, 19, 90, 193, and 301 of the Conference on the Law of the Sea; Article 14 of the Convention on Seabed and Ocean Floor and the Soil Thereof; and Articles 5 and 13 of the GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade]. The United States also violates its own law of neutrality and the norm in Section 8, Article 1, of the U.S. Constitution when it assumes the legal right to make war on other states. This is a right of the Congress. This government also uses institutional mechanisms to attack Nicaragua when it proposes before its Congress the approval of millions of dollars aimed at this purpose and at carrying out state terrorism internally.

5. That these U.S. Government crimes have caused the loss of thousands of lives in Nicaragua, tens of thousands of wounded and mutilated people, and tens of millions of dollars in material damage.

We therefore resolve:

To strongly condemn the shameless and treacherous policy of the U.S. Government against Nicaragua and which includes genocide, crimes against peace, terrorism, and direct or indirect aggression against our country, disregarding the norms that guide the international relations among states.

To call on all the honest judges and jurists of all the countries of the world, especially the United States, for them to raise their voices and use all available resources to stop the criminal policy of the U.S. Government against our people.

OPPOSITION GROUPS JOIN TO FORM UNITED FRONT

PA131551 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2238 GMT 12 Apr 84

[By Raul Mendoza]

[Text] Managua, 12 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board and a faction of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua (PCDN) today formed a "United Civic Front" to "achieve the establishment of the revolution's original program." The opposition bloc, formed by 11 political, union, and business organizations, signed the document with PCDN representatives to "harmonize and coordinate the civic struggle and to unite efforts aimed at achieving the points stated in the document: 'To Give Way to Democracy and Free Elections.'" The contents of the document have already been published in the 28 December edition of this city's LA PRENSA newspaper.

Luis Rivas Leva, president of the Coordinating Board, said that this democratic unity is also aimed at interpreting "the democratic people's feelings and to respond to the search for that government of freedom that the current leaders have denied by not fulfilling the revolution's original program."

The political ceremony took place at the Social Democratic Party [PSD] headquarters. The document was signed by Rivas Leiva, president of the Social Democratic coalition and of the PSD; Ignacio Miranda of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party; Agustin Jarquin, president of the Social Christian Party; and Mario Rappacciolli of the PCDN.

Rappacciolli said that the union that was created yesterday with the opposition bloc is very important, and we will struggle to achieve an authentic electoral process that will result in a stop to armed activities. The conservative leader added that they will struggle so that the Sandinist government "will provide democratic guarantees for the realization of free and honest elections." "This coalition represents all of the democratic forces in the country which, united, will win the elections next 4 November," the conservative leader said.

The Conservative Party was divided into two factions last 19 November, one headed by Mario Rappacciolli and Miriam Arguello, and the other by Enrique Sotelo Borgen and Clemente Guido. The Sotelo Borgen faction is represented at the State Council (Government Junta co-legislative body), and at the National Assembly of Political Parties (ANPP).

According to Mario Rappacciolli, his party will demand that the Sandinist government allow it to have a delegate at the State Council and at the other organizations where the legally established Nicaraguan parties are represented: at the ANPP, as well as at the National Council of Political Parties (CNPP). Rappacciolli said that "in Sotelo Borgen's faction there are three government officials, among them Rafael Cordova Rivas, a member of the Government Junta."

Further on Alliance

PA132339 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Members of the Democratic Conservative Party have announced that their party and the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board have made a political alliance. Here is a statement by Silviano Matamoros, Democratic Conservative Party political secretary, explaining the situation:

[Begin recording] [Matamoros] The last time we talked, you asked me if there was a possibility of an alliance between the Democratic Coordinating Board and the Democratic Conservative Party. Yesterday we signed an alliance with all the political, professional, and labor organizations of the Democratic Coordinating Board. Our common objective is to try to find a formula for a civic solution to the country's problems. We are trying to make the government understand, and we hope it does, that we want to have free elections, so that the Nicaraguan people can for once in their lives elect the government they wish.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Matamoros, what were the conditions for the alliance?

[Matamoros] As I said before, our common objective is to try to achieve some tranquillity, and especially to gain freedom in our country, so that we can have free elections, return to the original government plan, and reach an understanding among all members of our society for a civic solution.

[Reporter] Have you become part of the Democratic Coordinating Board?

[Matamoros] We are not part of nor have we joined the Democratic Coordinating Board; what we have is an alliance based on common objectives that we shared long before we even thought of an alliance. [end recording]

INTERIOR MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON CONTRA ACTIONS

PA140342 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Communique issued by the Interior Ministry in Managua -- date not given]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Interior Ministry, fulfilling its sacred duty of keeping the people informed, reports that:

1. Early on the morning of 7 April, a group of heavily armed counterrevolutionaries entered the communities of Maniwatla and Cuarenta y Tres, located in northern Zelaya Department. The counterrevolutionaries carried out all types of misdeeds against the civilian population. AS a result of this savage action, the following persons were raped or tortured: Paulo Diaz, Cecilia Pichan, Dolores Reinaldo, Josefina Pasier, and Professor Martin Ramos, who also had two brothers kidnapped.

2. These bands, financed, equipped, and advised by the Reagan administration, brutally attacked the people in Maniwatla, from which they kidnapped the following persons: Gorgas Lux, Pastor Almanza Maximo Arenson, Mitilaya Nicola, Ezequiel Castro, Steve Alvarado, Orlando Ramos, Nicolas Allen, and Emilio Alpoy. They also forcefully took with them the following persons: Pedro Eligio Moody, Belisario Almanza, and Pedro Ramos. These four citizens had recently accepted the amnesty decree issued by our Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. It is noteworthy that also among the kidnapped persons are the minors of Alba Salvador and Brunilda Tristan.

3. In the community of Cuarenta Y Tres, these terrorist bands in a criminal action raided the homes, taking among other things all of the milk that was to be used to feed the children of the town. In this community they also kidnapped Ricardo Casanova, Solano Cagut, Geronimo Espinoza, and Victor Pasier.

4. These actions carried out by counterrevolutionaries supplied by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency using puppet gorrillas and bad Nicaragauns like Steadman Fagoth, Brooklyn Rivera, and (Adan Arzola), among others, who are very well known by the Miskito people as CIA instruments, are nothing more than the result of the helplessness and frustration they feel because they cannot dominate our humble working people, who want only to work and rebuild the homeland in peace, a right that they won with the blood spilled by our heroes and martyrs.

DEFENSE MINISTRY CLAIMS 34 REBEL DEATHS

PA170348 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Communique No 32 of the Defense Ministry issued in Managua -- date not given]

[Text] The Defense Ministry reports: 1. The Colonel Santos Lopez Battalion for Irregular Warfare, operating in Jinotega's northern sector, clashed on 14 and 15 April with counterrevolutionary task forces that entered Nicaragua recently from Honduras.

2. As a result of these clashes, the Somozists suffered 34 dead in an ambush by our troops. We suffered no casualties.

[Signed] Public and Foreign Relations Directorate, Nicaraguan Defense Ministry

SANDINIST NAVY OFFICIAL ON MINE CLEARANCE

PA141304 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The Sandinist Navy is conducting a mine sweeping operation in Nicaragua's territorial waters.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Local and foreign newsmen were taken on a boat ride to see where the mines had been placed in the Port of Corinto. According to the Sandinist Navy chief, Captain Mario Aleman, many mines have been retrieved in the section we were taken to.

[Aleman] There are three types of mines: the acoustic mine, which is activated by the sound of the ship's motor; the contact mine, which explodes on contact; and the pressure mine, which is activated by the pressure of tons of water. [end recording]

"Piranha" speedboats are being used to mine our ports. These boats depart from a U.S. frigate, which has been seen 40 miles off our coasts. The "Piranha" boats are receiving air support from planes and helicopter gunships. Capt Aleman told the newsmen that there was a clash with the enemy on 30 March and that two coast guard vessels were damaged in this action. He explained that the mine sweeping operation is being carried out with improvished mine sweepers.

[Begin recording] [Aleman] We are installing the mine sweepers on fishing boats. The mine sweepers are cable nets that are used to set off the mine either by contact or sound.

[Reporter] How deep must the divers go to deactivate a mine?

[Aleman] What the divers generally do it to make sure that the ship does not hit the mine and to see to it that frogmen have not placed explosive charges on the ship's hull. [end recording]

Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez, who also talked to the newsmen, explained that the mining of Nicaraguan ports has caused economic problems.

[Begin Martinez recording] What the enemy is really trying to do, in this case the CIA, is to create a climate of unrest and confusion to prevent ships from touching Nicaraguan ports. If this aggression continues, our country will be paying a high cost, when our ports are declared unsafe for navigation and in a state of war. Right now, we have two situations we would like to the world to know about: one, the problems that the blockade is causing our economy; and the other, our butter and milk shortage because shipments from Costa Rica have not arrived. This is affecting our children and newborn babies. [end recording]

ORGANIZATION PLANS TO MAKE FILM ON PORT MINING

PA131802 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Among its plans for the coming months, INCINE [not further identified] has included the preparation of a documentary to collect all the information on the mining of the country's ports, as well as the aftermath of these aggressions. Lilia Alfaro [INCINE official] in charge of international relations, comments on this:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Regarding INCINE's other plan, can you give us more information regarding plans for the coming months?

[Alfaro] This year, the Nicaraguan movie industry will continue elaborating on various aspects of the planned documentary. At present, we are planning to film a documentary on the port mining issue. We deem it of the utmost importance to keep the people informed on this situation, as well as the effect this situation might have on the country's economy. [end recording]

REPORTAGE ON SITUATION AT SAN JUAN DEL NORTE

ANN Said To Report Occupation

FL162150 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2121 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Managua, 16 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- A dispatch by the New Nicaraguan News Agency [ANN], the official government agency, admitted today, Monday, that "counterrevolutionary" forces have occupied San Juan del Norte, a river port on the south Atlantic coast of this country.

The ANN report, datelined San Juan del Norte, carries a statement by Eden Pastora, also known as "Commandante Cero," to newsmen in this remote southeastern region of the country. The ANN dispatch admits for the first time that San Juan del Norte, in the Department (province) of Rio San Juan, was occupied last 13 April by a detachment of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE). According to the official agency's dispatch, Eden Pastora announced that he will form a provisional government in the sector known as "Bocas de Sarapiqui."

Pastora Reports EPS Attack

PA162234 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2223 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] San Jose, 16 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Forces of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) are attacking the Port of San Juan del Norte on the Atlantic coast, which has been held by members of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) since last week, by air, land, and sea. ARDE military leader Eden Pastora, better known as ""Commander Cero," has transmitted a radio message to the ARDE offices in the Costa Rican capital affirming that Managua government troops have launched a fierce counterattack on the positions of that township. According to Pastora, the forces of the Sandinist government are using vessels at sea, aircraft, and helicopters in their attack.

Pastora Interviewed

PA170135 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Through our monitoring we will hear Commander Eden Pastora Gomez' statements to the international press. Following the fall of San Juan del Norte into the hands of the ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] rebels, the international press interviewed Commander Pastora over radio. He speaks of various important topics.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] We are in direct communication with Commander Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, who along with his forces seized total control of San Juan del Norte a few days ago as part of the ARDE offensive to seize Nicaraguan territory. For the listeners of Radio Reloj [San Jose, Costa Rica radio station] and the Radio Reloj newscast, here is Commander Pastora directly from San Juan del Norte. Commander Pastora, what are the latest events in San Juan del Norte, and are you afraid of a counteroffensive by the Sandinist Army?

[Pastora] First of all, greetings to the fraternal people of Costa Rica from this liberated town of San Juan del Norte [words indistinct] Costa Rican brothers, the last time that we spoke with Mr (Fournier) over television [words indistinct] thanks to the miracle of electronics we could communicate with the Costa Ricans from this mountain, from this area of fighting. We are getting close to big confrontations, because the dictatorial government of Managua wants to make it seem as if their problem comes from outside Nicaragua and that there is no problem internally. The truth is that we are fighting in 30,000 square km. We have liberated 6,000 km, and we have seized this important city. They are going to try to recover it. We are not waging a war of positions. (?It is not) a convention war. We are going to wage resistance [words indistinct] nine ships that off the San Juan Bay, all the Soviet Mi-8 helicopter gunships that the Russians have given the Managua government. We are confronting all the Soviet technology with the limited resources that, based on our honorable positions, we have been able to obtain. So how can I put it? These days are quite hard for the heroic soldiers who fight from ARDE positions. Over.

[Reporter] The Managua Government has said that San Juan del Norte has no strategic importance. Do you think this will reduce ARDE's worries?

[Pastora] Can you imagine how important it was if it was defended by Soviet SAM, surface-to-air, missiles? Can you imagine how important it was if an entire company was stationed there to defend that position and that at this time they are using all their strength against us? Now that they have lost it, they say it is unimportant. When they lose all Nicaragua they will say that Nicaragua is unimportant in the great universal revolution. They will say that Afghanistan was more important and that they sacrificed Nicaragua in order to consolidate Afghanistan. That is what they will say in Havana or Moscow when we throw them out of Managua. Over.

[Reporter] It is 2 years since you reappeared following your resignation from the Sandinist regime and your open declaration that you would fight against the Managua government. Do you think the time is coming when the Nicaraguan people will once again resume the path to democracy?

[Pastora] That moment is getting closer every day. Inch-by-inch, point-by-point, we are advancing toward Nicaragua's freedom and democracy. Over.

[Reporter] What was the situation last week when you were attacking eight different points in order to control San Juan del Norte?

[Pastora] It was a violent situation that demanded sacrifice, great stoicism, and revolutionary spirit. This can only be obtained with great awareness of the reason for fighting. We are engaged in battle not only here in San Juan del Norte but also in Nueva Guinea and El Almendro; we are encircling Bluefields; we are seizing Rio Escondido; and we are going to attack the road to Rama. We are seizing the positions of Rio Grande de Matagalpa through the MISURASATA [Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinists Unity] companeros led by Companero Brooklyn Rivera and Rio Prinzapolka. As I said, we are fighting in 30,000 square km, which is equivalent to one-fourth of the territory. Over.

[Reporter] Some weeks ago you complained to the world about the lack of support needed to maintain your struggle. Does this offensive mean that you have more financial, [word indistinct], and logistical support?

[Pastora] No, I am still complaining about the [word indistinct] of the democratic forces of the world. I continue to complain about the democrats' fear of the communists in their governments. I continue to complain about these people who call themselves democrats and who are ashamed of supporting us. I say this because many of those who give us economic support give it with the condition that we not disclose their names and in this way we lose political support. They just give us their military support. We still need aid. Over.

[Reporter] Do you think these advances by ARDE can affect the electoral process to be culminated by the Managua regime at the end of the year?

[Pastora] They began to affect the democratic process on 19 July 1979 when they began to restrict democratic freedoms, when they began to restrict freedom of press and freedom of movement. That is when they began to affect the democratic process. Over.

[Reporter] As Holy Week nears, what is your message to the religious Nicaraguan people at a time when you are heading one of the biggest offensives, as the Sandinist regime has admitted?

[Pastora] That they pray to God for the Nicaraguan people who need Him so much and who seem to have been forgotten by Him.

We have had 160 years of independent life and 160 years of war. We ask the Nicaraguan people to pray to God for us. We ask the mothers not to continue permitting their sons to be led to death. This situation is used to obtain more martyrs for political purposes and to thus hold on to power that has already been lost. Over.

[Reporter] We have spoken with Commander Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, who heads the ARDE military forces in San Juan del Norte, seized over the weekend by the ARDE rebel forces. [end recording]

PASTORA SAYS BLUEFIELDS NEXT OBJECTIVE

PA161854 Paris AFP in Spanish 1721 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Managua, 16 Apr (AFP) -- The upcoming creation of a "provisional government" in the southern part of Nicaragua announced by Eden Pastora, the military commander of the the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), could radically alter the style of the fighting in that country.

Revealed over a year ago by the Managua government as the main objective of the anti-Sandinist forces, the creation of such a government in Nicaragua could earn the anti-Sandinists official support from abroad, particularly from the United States. The ARDE forces were the first to achieve that objective, in the barren southeastern area of Nicaragua, bordering on Costa Rica. There the ARDE forces plan to establish that "provisional government" within the next 90 days.

From the military standpoint, Commander Eden Pastora pointed out that such a beachhead would serve as the base of the advance toward the north, and that the next objective is the port of Bluefields, capital of Zelaya Department, the largest and at the same time least - populated department of Nicaragua.

PASTORA'S BODYGUARD KILLED ON 'SOUTHERN FRONT'

PA141639 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1449 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 14 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Octavio Molina Martinez, nicknamed "Manuel," who was the bodyguard of Eden Pastora (Commander Cero), has been buried in the workers cemetery of this capital. Molina participated in most of the fighting alongside the commander of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) in the southern front.

According to insurgent sources, "Manuel" participated in an attack on the forces defending a strategic post in the southern front and was wounded in the abdomen. Pastora ordered that he be evacuated immediately and turned over to the Red Cross, but despite all efforts they were unable to save him. The International Red Cross is sending human resources, doctors, and transportation to the Nicaraguan border to receive the first soldiers wounded by the Sandinist People's Army (EPS). Spokesmen for the insurgents told ACAN-EFE that early today they will turn over 40 Sandinist soldiers who were wounded and who survived the fighting in San Juan del Norte.

Cuban Lino Mendoza (nicknamed "Lucero") was killed in the final phase of the fighting, "fulfilling his decision to die rather than surrender," the ARDE spokesmen added. The sources told ACAN-EFE that ARDE forces will be mobilized tonight to strengthen the defense of the recently occupied region of San Juan del Norte, where they want to set up a base of operations.

ARDE'S ROBELO ON PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, TOUR

PA170032 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2046 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] London, 16 Apr (EFE) -- Alfonso Robelo, president of the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), tonight declared that he does not intend to interrupt his current European tour to return to his country to head a provisional government. In a statement to EFE in London, Robelo confirmed the possibility that in 60 to 90 days they may conclude the formation of a provisional government in San Juan del Norte, as Eden Pastora, military leader of ARDE, told newsmen in Costa Rica.

"The idea of a provisional government is, for the time being, only that, an idea," Robelo said. He stressed that such a government "will have to be very serious, very responsible." Meanwhile, the ARDE leader termed "ridiculous" a statement by Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortego dismissing the strategic value of San Juan del Norte. Robelo said that that city is the principal port on the Atlantic coast and that Ortega has demonstrated "his total ignorance" when referring to the strategic value of San Juan del Norte as he did.

ROBELO ON CONDITIONS FOR ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION

PM161326 Madrid ABC in Spanish 6 Apr 84 p 31

[Interview with Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, leader Alfonso Robelo by Francisco de Andres in Madrid -- date not given]

[Excerpt] Question: What conditions do you deem essential for the cessation of hostilities and your participation in the electoral process?

Answer: The first is obvious: that the FSLN guarantee participation without exclusion of all our country's representative forces and their leaders. Currently all the leaders who are taking part directly or indirectly in the armed struggle against the totalitarian Managua regime are excluded. The second is that the junta give clear signs of its intention of separating the party from the state, and especially from the Army, which should serve the entire people's interests and not those of a specific ideology. As you know, in our countries the Army plays a decisive role, and if the Armed Forces are committed to a specific political option, there can be no talk at all of free and democratic elections. The third is that, in an atmosphere of national reconciliation, we have Latin American supervision. Specifically, the Contadora Group would be, in our opinion, the ideal body to supervise the whole process. This condition would be sufficient to guarantee our participation.

"We Seek Guarantees"

Question: And the rest of the points?

Answer: These three which I have set out are the essential ones. The other three are logical and follow from the previous points: a law on political parties, the return of the freedoms which have been violated -- especially freedom of expression -- and the elimination of institutionalized repression in its many forms. If these conditions are fulfilled, we will abandon the armed struggle to take part in the electoral process. And we would do so -- without demanding prior participation in the government. We only seek guarantees; the government must have its origin solely in the popular support which emerges from the polls.

Question: What political blueprint would the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance put forward, and what ideological program does it currently uphold?

Answer: ARDE is a coalition of six different organizations, which include Commander Eden Pastora's Sandino Revolutionary Front, Jose Davila's Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, the groups of Miskito, Sumo, and Rama Indians led by Brooklyn Rivera, a trade union organization led by Donald Castillo, and my own party -- the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement -- all of them with different political stances. But I wish to take the opportunity to make clear that we are revolutionaries, not counterrevolutionaries. We are dissidents with respect to a process with whose original conception we feel at the same time fully identified. To call a man like Eden Pastora, who has struggled for 23 years under Sandino's inspiration, an anti-Sandinist is to insult him. On the other hand, I am founder and chairman of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement -- a party of social democratic ideology founded in 1978 following Dr Chamorro's assassination, which was a binding factor of unity among the political parties which struggled against Somoza's dictatorship in the various stages of the war of liberation.

Betrayal of Sandino

Question: How do you interpret the Sandinist revolution's original blueprint, to which you say that you are committed?

Answer: We upheld a basic program, which consisted of three great principles: a truly nonaligned foreign policy, genuine political pluralism, and a clearly defined mixed economy, with a state sector, a private sector, and a mixed sector. All these principles have been betrayed by the FSLN.

Question: In the event the Managua authorities reject the terms for dialogue which you propose and refuse to guarantee a plural process on equal terms, do you regard as inevitable an armed intervention by the United States or some other Central American country?

Answer: In the first place, I believe that it is not necessary and would be very detrimental to Nicaragua. Second, I believe that it would be very difficult, because of the international pressures and the high costs in every way which it would entail.

Question: But you would not be able to keep up your armed hostility indefinitely....

Answer: It will not be so if our movement is regarded as a snowball which is gaining in size and speed. As we reach the country's more populated areas, our growth is impressive. When we began military actions in May 1983, we had only 380 men. Now we have 8,000 armed men, and this April we will reach 10,000. If we are objective, we must bear in mind that we face an army of 100,000 men which enjoys full Soviet and Cuban support in a clearly unequal struggle. But the snowball is still rolling.

FDN SUPPORTS ARDE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

PA170345 Paris AFP in Spanish 0243 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 16 Apr (AFP) -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) today announced its "complete support" of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance's (ARDE) efforts to form a provisional government in southern Nicaragua within 3 months. Edgard Chamorro, a member of the FDN National Directorate, told AFP in Tegucigalpa that "we fully support the formation of a provisional government by ARDE."

Following the seizure of San Juan del Norte by the ARDE guerrillas, Eden Pastora announced over the weekend the installation of a provisional government in Sarapiqui in southern Nicaragua within 90 days. Nevertheless, Chamorro indicated that the FDN also "maintains the option of establishing a provisional government if it is able to exercise absolute dominion in the territories under its control in northern Nicaragua."

The anti-Sandinist leader stressed the "harmony" of objectives between the FDN and ARDE and indicated that the commanders of the two organizations have maintained contact in the last few days in the sector of Chontales, south of Matagalpa. However, Chamorro said that his organization is currently unable to help the ARDE forces maintain their positions in San Juan del Norte due to the distance separating the territories controlled by the FDN and that port on Nicaragua's south Atlantic coast.

Chamorro explained that the FDN currently has about 8,000 armed men, while 2,000 others are being trained in Nicaragua. "We are growing in an incredible way," Chamorro said, adding that the FDN could double its troops in the next 2 months if its expectations on the supply of weapons are fulfilled. "When that occurs, we will be able to enter cities; at this time the fighting is taking place in the rural areas," he added.

Chamorro said that the FDN controls "extensive areas" of Matagalpa and Jinotega Departments in northern Nicaragua on the border with Honduras and is also fighting in Nueva Segovia, Madriz, and Esteli, especially in the mountains of Dipilto, La Quesera, and Retiro Diego. Chamorro indicated that in Matagalpa, the Jorge Salazar Regional Command, comprised of 2,000 men, maintains "great control" in the area between Waslala and Rio Blanco, which includes the communities of Ocote, Dudu, Boca de Yoasca, Tilampico, Wana-Was, El Rosario, Dipina, and the northern area of Rio Tuma.

In northwestern Jinotega, the Diriangen and Segovia commands, with another 2,000 men, control Cerro Blanco, Patillon, San Antonio, Matapalo, and Cerro Helado, among other places. According to Chamorro's report, in northern Jinotega, another similar force grouped in the Rafaela Herrera Regional Command, led by Commander Tigrillo, controls Kinino-Was Mountain, Los Kalichones, La Golondrina, Zapote-Kun, Arenal, Santa Teresa, and Laguna Verde.

In Nueva Segovia, Chamorro added, the FDN "partially" controls the area of Ciudad Antigua, San Francisco, Tembladero, Quije, La Catalosa, and Terrero Grande.

Chamorro said that FDN commands have acted with "great effectiveness," and he explained that their objective "is to control the area and not to declare a free territory, which would turn us into defenders." "The objective is to pressure the Sandinist regime to force it to a political solution," Chamorro said.

UN ENVOY WARNS AGAINST CIA ACTIONS IN NICARAGUA

PA162008 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Weekly feature on the Nonaligned Movement]

[Excerpts] The UN Security Council this week has continued to analyze the situation in Nicaragua, a nonaligned Central American country that is currently the victim of a new stepped-up aggression by the U.S. Government, with the complicity of puppet regimes in the region. Raul Roa Kouri, Cuba's permanent representative at the United Nations, has issued a warning to be alert to the CIA's so-called covert actions against Nicaragua, which seek to impose on that nation a return to oppression through a military, political, economic, and diplomatic boycott.

Ricardo Luna, Peru's alternate representative, likewise asserted his deep concern for the mining of Nicaraguan ports, which represents an obstacle for maritime trade with the country. He termed this a de facto blockade and a violation of the right to free navigation.

Despite all the protests, the United States vetoed the Security Council draft resolution that strongly condemned the mining of Nicaraguan ports, the loss of lives, the material damage, and the grave violation of the right to free navigation and trade brought about by this and many other aggressions.

During ECLA's 20th meeting, held in Lima, Peru, the concern of several nonaligned countries was likewise stated regarding the foreign intervention in Central America. The countries also analyzed a possible solution to the deep economic, political, and social crisis that prevails in the region. During the introduction to these meetings, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar explained that the international recession severely affects Latin American regional trade, exchange operations continue to worsen, interest rates are increasingly higher, and unemployment prevails. Finally, Perez de Cuellar issued a call for industrialized countries to begin more equitable cooperation with underdeveloped countries through efforts for a new international economic order and a renewal of the currently interrupted dialogues.

ALMEIDA ON PEOPLE'S UNITY, INTERNATIONALISM

PA151404 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 29 Mar 84 pp 1, 17

[Interview with Juan Almeida Bosque, vice president of the Cuban Council of State and member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, by EL DIA journalists Estela Vaylon, Alejandra Sanchez Gavito, Jose Luis Camacho, and David Colmenares, on 28 March in Havana]

[Text] Havana, March -- In an interview for EL DIA, Juan Atmeida Bosque said that "there have been divisions, yes, but basically our sentiments and spirit have continued to be firm. Our people are strongly united. The Mariel experience taught us that there can be lumpen in socialism...they were the scum we still had, but they are finally gone."

The unity between the Cuban people and their leaders makes the Cuban revolution great and strong. Internationalist spirit strengthens the country internally, because "when people are generous, they can reason better, as they are free of subterfuge and selfishness."

Commander Almeida expressed his conviction that "the Cuban people have not been disappointed by their leaders, whom they respect, love, and consider as one with the people." In his opinion, the Cuban leader and the people are the same, and a characteristic of Cuban democracy is the fact that the citizens are participating in solving the community's and the country's most urgent problems.

Almeida Bosque defined the Cuban internationalist spirit as the people's natural response to and concern about the world's poverty, hunger, and humiliation, and in his opinion this condition is shaping a new man, a definite product of the Cuban revolution.

Twenty-five years after the Cuban revolutionary victory, in order to chronicle all the experience of this period, EL DIA sent a team of reporters and photographers, including Alejandra Sanchez Gavito, Jose Luis Camacho, David Colmenares, Francisco Navarro, Vicente Crotes, and headed by Estela Vaylon to Cuba. The results of their efforts will be published in five installments, beginning today, under the title "Cuba: 25 Years on the Frontline."

More than 4 months after the U.S. invasion of the island of Grenada, Commander Juan Almeida Bosque, the "third man" of the country's revolution and one of the 82 "Granma" expeditionaries, tells EL DIA of the lessons that the Cuban people have learned from these incidents:

"We must prepare more; we have to be stronger; we must learn from what happened there."

The brief and informal interview was held at Commander Almeida's office located in the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee headquarters, at the front of Revolution Square. The dialogue and friendly meeting with the Mexican reporters follows.

Almeida and EL DIA's reporters shared the feelings of outrage that the Cuban people and leaders experienced from the 25 October incidents on the island of Grenada, in which 24 Cubans internationalist workers were killed.

The incidents of Grenada are still present in the minds and feelings of the Cuban citizens. There is no doubt about those ominous actions, which not only enraged Cuba but all Latin America.

EL DIA: We have noticed, in the specific case of Grenada, that the people and their leaders share the same feelings. (Based on what we said, Juan Almeida confirms a definite similarity between what the commander in chief of the Cuban revolution and the people say.)

Almeida: We do not ask the people to do more than we can do. The internationalists are ready to go to any front, under any condition, to work on behalf of another country and to die for that ideal. Our people are living up to this ideal. They are committed and have identified themselves with it. The people represent the party. It has been that way wherever we have been, in Angola and in Ethiopia. Our men are willing to give up their lives. They have faith in what they feel and say. We are not selfish. As internationalists, we share what we have. We understand the poverty and problems of other countries. The Cubans have feelings for their brothers; wherever there is a man suffering from hunger, we understand his situation and we try to share what we have with him. That is how we are educating our people. That is the way they act.

EL DIA: Could we say that a completely new man of the Cuban society is beginning to take shape?

Almeida: We start from the internationalist feeling. I do not think we can say that we have a completely new man, but we hope to achieve that.

EL DIA: Are there characteristics that shape this complete man?

Almeida: Yes. There are characteristics such as the unselfishness of the man who is willing to struggle for other peoples. This is a satisfaction we enjoy. We see it in the boys who leave their homes at 16 or 17 years of age to go to Angola, Nicaragua, and Grenada to participate in a literacy campaign. This means of that a new type of citizen is beginning to appear, who is absolutely generous and unselfish.

EL DIA: How do the Cuban people and their revolution feel about poverty and neglect of many Latin American countries?

Almeida: In the first place it hurts us. It hurts us to see hunger, poverty, humiliation, and people being killed.

EL DIA: Is that the reason for the internationalist spirit of the Cuban people?

Almeida: Yes, we feel as if it were happening to us.

EL DIA: Which would be the Cuban revolutionaries' message to Latin American revolutionaries?

Almeida: To continue struggling; not to give up in this permanent effort; to fervently encourage the hope that their dreams will come true: This is the message we would like to deliver. The people who struggle, who face reality with courage, will see positive results. I reiterate our solidarity with those sectors affected by hunger, oppression and poverty.

EL DIA: What makes the Cuban revolution strong?

Almeida: The unity of its people and leaders is what make the Cuban revolution great and strong. Fidel works on behalf of that unity and makes it great by his enormous internationalist spirit. This spirit also makes us great on the domestic scene. When people are disinterested they can reason better; they are not full of subterfuge and selfishness. Fidel is the most unselfish of all the revolutionary leaders. He is concerned about his people — the women, children, and elders. You have seen that there are no children running without shoes or loitering in the streets.

"Have you been to the psychiatric hospital?" Almeida asks the Mexican reporters, as he adds, "when a nation takes care of the insane, it also takes care of its children and elders. It takes care of everyone.

"We are satisfied, especially when we travel. Our people travel. We have gone to the USSR, Panama, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, and Angola. Our people travel, sometimes as internationalists or as tourists. When we travel and we see hunger, poverty, and the lack of assistance, of us it is like a stab; we feel it, we suffer it."

There is hunger in the world and this is sorrowful because there is no solution. Brazil is an example. We see many Latin American rulers having to face this situation and unfortunately we understand that those were the Alliance for Progress examples.

Commander Almeida, who once wrote music and poetry, spoke during the interview of his memories of Mexico, where he lived before he joined the 26 July Movement revolutionary struggle. In Mexico, for the first time in my life, I felt like a human being, he told the reporters. I could go anywhere. In Cuba the blacks were strongly discriminated against. In Mexico I felt like a human being. Do you know what that means? The discrimination in Cuba was cruel.

EL DIA: What does it mean for Cuba to have relations with Mexico and especially for Mexico to be open to all Cubans?

Almeida: We are deeply grateful. When other countries turned their backs on us, Mexico was always present. The Mexican people welcomed the emigrants and gave them asylum. The ties between Cubans and Mexicans go a long way back. Marti was in Mexico and Cubans fought on the side of Juarez.

EL DIA: Has the relentless propaganda unleashed by U.S. imperialism in any way affected the internationalist spirit of the Cuban revolution?

Almeida: It has not been able to undermine nor weaken the Cuban revolution. There have been dissensions but the sentiments and spirit have basically remained firm. Our people have great strength and are united. There were dissensions as the one of Mariel, which taught us that even in socialism there are contemptible persons. They were the scum we still had, but they are finally gone.

Now, 25 years after the revolution, despite the blockade established in 1961 against the Cuban people, Commander Juan fought next to Fidel Castro on the assault of the Moncada Barracks on 26 July 1953, points to the advances made, mainly in the fields of education, health, and in the internationalist attitude of the Cuban, which he describes in the following manner: The people have the spirit; you can see it in children and adults. It is a fact. The objectives have been fulfilled. We feel that we have not disappointed the people, and they respect us, have consideration for us, and see us as one of them. It is a feeling and evaluation I make as a revolutionary, it is something that touches you, that is engraved in you.

We can say that the Cuban leader and people are one and the same. We could also say that a characteristic of Cuban democracy is the citizen's participation in the solution of the community's most urgent problems, of the nation's big problems, and of the internationalist policy.

The dialogue with Commander Almeida comes to an end. In front of us is the big Revolution Square right in the middle of Havana.

MILITARY CEREMONY COMMEMORATES MILITIA DAY

FL161930 [Editorial Report] Havana Domestic Service in Spanish at 1458 GMT on 16 April began live coverage from the Commander Camilo Cienfuegos FAR Artillery School of the military ceremony commemorating the 23d anniversary of the proclamation of the socialist nature of the revolution and Militia Day. The ceremony was held on the parade ground of the FAR Artillery School.

The announcer described the historical background and significance of the anniversary. He then announced the arrival of FAR Minister Raul Castro Ruz at 1501 GMT. He identified Brigadier General Enrique Acevedo Gonzalez as the commander of troops, and Brigadier General Joaquin Quinta Solas as the reviewing officer. Army General Raul Castro presided over the ceremony together with Politburo members and alternate members, ministers, generals, FAR and Interior Ministry officers, Playa Giron combatants, mass organization leaders, Soviet military advisers, military attaches, and a large Pioneer delegation.

Generals Acevedo and Quinta reviewed the troops. Then an unidentified official read FAR Minister Castro's military order promoting noncommissioned and commissioned reserve officers present at the ceremony. In a 5-minute ceremony, 200 members of the Territorial Troops Militia [MTT] received their promotions and new insignias.

The announcer then stated that Comrade Omar Mirabal Herrera would make an address in the name of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC]. At 1516 GMT, Mirabal began to speak. He reviewed the historical background of the proclamation of the socialist nature of the revolution in 1961 and, briefly, the achievements of the revolution to date. He stated: We demand that the fascist Yankee clique -- the same clique that we defeated 23 years ago -- end its aggression against the peoples of Central America, its covert war waged aginst the heroic Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan peoples, the arms race, and the deployment of atomic missiles in Europe aimed at our country, the USSR. He repeated Fidel Castro's warning that if the United States invades Cuba, it will have to wage war against the entire Cuban people. He concluded his 6-minute speech at 1522 GMT after congratulating the officers on their promotion and pledging in the name of the CTC increased production and greater effort to satisfactorily complete the sugar harvest.

After brief applause, a child -- Bailen Reyes Guerra -- greeted the public on behalf of the Pioneers, referred to the Playa Giron victory, and congratulated the MTT on behalf of the Pioneers. At 1526 GMT the announcer stated that the promoted militiamen were given flowers by Pioneers to celebrate the occasion.

At 1528 GMT the announcer introduced as the main speaker Central Committee member and substitute of the FAR minister for the MTT Division General Raul Menendez Tomassevich. At 1529 GMT Menendez began his 16-minute speech by reviewing the Playa Giron victory. He praised the militia organization and its achievements. He referred to the present imperialist threat, stating that President Reagan desired to impose by force the restoration of the capitalist system [in Cuba] in a period in which such a demented policy can only lead to a holocaust that would include the United States. For this reason we are living in a critical period which is the result of the premeditated intention of the Machiavelli of the White House to revive the so-called focuses of regional tension such as those in Central America, southern Africa, and the Middle East, among others.

He referred to the deployment in Western Europe of U.S. medium-range rockets, the goal of which is to alter strategic arms parity in order to blackmail the world. He stated that President Reagan has managed to create a true state of war in Central America even though he has had to break the laws of his own country to do so. He said that the Reagan government has put into motion against Nicaragua an undeclared war in which support is given through the CIA to the counterrevolutionary groups that strike from neighboring countries. He then criticized the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

He closed his speech with a lengthy consideration of his view of the results of a U.S. invasion of Cuba: "If imperialism, in its irrational anti-Cuban policy should again commit the historical error of attacking our homeland and forcing us to fight -- with the same decision but strengthened by the socioeconomic development of the country and by our increased defensive capability -- the combat glories of Giron would be renewed. If they dare tread upon our homeland, here awaiting them are death and defeat."

At 1545 GMT Menendez concluded his speech. At 1547 GMT the parade started, headed by the commander of troops, Acevedo Gonzalez. The parade consisted of the color guard, two MTT units, a group representing the FAR Artillery School, and groups from the Technical Military Institute, the General Antonio Macuo Inter-Service School, the Naval Academy, the Western Army, the Technical Aviation School, the School of Communications, and chemical warfare troops.

Live coverage of the ceremony concluded at 1554 GMT with the parade still in progress.

FRG LEGISLATORS VISIT EUROPEAN STUDIES CENTER

FL170256 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] FRG parliament members Gabriele Gottwald and Jergen Reents members of the Greens Party, today visited the headquarters of the Center for Western European Studies. Santiago (Freiden), of that organization's staff, explained the objectives of the organization's tasks and its relations with other national and international organizations.

Both parliament members are in Cuba at the invitation of the People's Government National Assembly and they will tour places of interest. The Greens Party was founded in 1980, and has been a part of the FRG parliament for 1 year, although it is still a minority.

STUDENT GROUP HOLDS CONGRESS IN BULGARIA

PA161338 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] An extensive exchange of experiences has continued among the numerous organizations participating in the 14th congress of the International Union of Students, UIS, being held in Sofia.

During the 3d day of meetings, Ventura Acevedo, youth representative of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, MPLA, explained how students from his country help the process of social transformation that occurs throughout the national territory. Acevedo also denounced the attacks carried out by the South African regime that force the revolutionary government to divert large amounts of money for defense.

In addition, Luis Ramon Jimenez, representative of the Federation of Ecuadoran University Students, described the unity existing between the organization and the Ecudadoran workers and people because, he stressed, the students cannot hold themselves aloof from the struggle for national and social liberation.

The General Association of Salvadoran University Students supports a negotiated solution for the conflict in their country, Oscar Rodriguez, the association leader, has said in Sofia. Rodriguez said that the proposal made by the Salvadoran liberation movement to create a broad-based government is a positive step, and adeed that the association is struggling for the university's autonomy and its return to an independent status, as well as a larger budget to cover teaching expenses. The Salvadoran leader gave much importance to the UIS congress currently being held in Sofia and expressed his appreciation for the world solidarity with the Salvadoran people's struggle for their liberation.

REAGAN TO USE DEFENSE FUNDS FOR SALVADORAN AID

FL141506 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT Apr 84

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has decided to ignore Congress and use the defense budget in order to send $62 million in emergency military aid to El Salvador, according to the news agency EFE. This decision could cause even greater strain in the already tense relations between Congress and the White House due to their differences over U.S. policy in Central America.

At first the White House had asked for $93 million in military aid for El Salvador -- aid which the White House considered vital and urgent -- but the Senate reduced the amount to $62 million. Leaders in the House of Representatives decided to appropriate only $32 million and refused to reach a compromise with the Senate.

The announcement that Reagan had decided to take the $62 million from the Pentagon budget was made by Rep Clarence Long, chairman of the House Apprppriations Committee. The measure was later confirmed by the White House through its spokesman Larry Speakes. Long commented: I believe that it is a big mistake -- a tremendous mistake. Senator Edward Kennedy said that it was a new slight by Reagan against the Congress in regard to Central American.

The political storm in Congress over CIA participation in the mining of Nicaraguan ports has influenced the mood of the Congress with regard to the aid requested for El Salvador. What is evident is that the $21 million requested by the Reagan administration for the anti-Sandinist forces operating from Honduras has no possibility of being approved by the House of Representatives, which is controlled by the Democrats.

President Reagan can use his special powers to make use of other funds for El Salvador but he cannot do so for clandestine aid to the anti-Sandinists. The House of Representatives and the Senate have condemned the mining of the ports and opposed the use of U.S. funds for these operations.

U.S., HONDURAN PARATROOPERS CONDUCT MANEUVERS

PA142341 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Honduran and U.S. troops conducted military maneuvers on Friday 100 km from the Nicaraguan border, according to press reports. The maneuvers consisted of a paratroop jump by 40 U.S. and 80 Honduran soldiers. Their objective was to secure a base of operations from which to launch an attack against a supposed enemy airfield. The United States and Honduras have scheduled more military exercises in the second phase of the Grenadier I maneuvers, which began on 31 March.

MINING OF NICARAGUAN PORTS STIRS INDIGNATION

PA130711 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 12 Apr 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] A wave of indignation against the United States because of the criminal mining of Nicaraguan ports has been reverberating around the world for the past few days. Governments, organizations, and personalities of all persuasions and ideologies are expessing in various ways their repudiation of the Ronald Reagan administration for this measure that violates all moral norms and international law.

The U.S. Government is being condemned just as strongly for its refusal to recognize the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the main UN organ of justice, in any decision regarding the open U.S. attack on the heroic Nicaraguan people.

A review of articles appearing in the world press shows the following: Great Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has reiterated her country's opposition to the mining of Nicaraguan harbors in the House of Commons because she feels that it is extremely dangerous to international navigation; Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs, has said that the U.S. mining of Nicaraguan ports is a tension-creating element that works against the efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis; the Netherlands has conveyed to the United States its concern over that measure; the French Government, as we have reported, has not only opposed this violation of international law, but has also offered its aid to sweep the mines from Nicaraguan waters.

Finally, the Governments of Denmark, Spain, and Belgium have joined the wave of worldwide repudiation of the mining of Nicaraguan ports. The Belgian External Affairs Ministry has stated that the measure violates international law and endangers maritime traffic. In Copenhagen, the Danish Foreign Affairs Ministry has warned that this incident will become a source of increasing concern in Europe. Spain has presented a protest note to the U.S. Embassy in Madrid against what it described as an extremely disturbing violation of international relations. Spain has also reiterated its support for the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

In Washington, the Senate has approved by a crushing majority a nonbinding resolution requesting a halt to the use of Central Intelligence Agency funds to aid in the placing of mines. Also in Washington, congressmen from the Democratic and Republican Parties alike have agreed in condemning the mining of the ports and in rejecting the Reagan administration's decision that its Central American policy does not fall under the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice at The Hague. President Reagan's decision to consider the Central American problem as outside the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice at The Hague has also been repudiated by the three Democratic Party presidential candidates.

At the United Nations, Soviet representative Oleg Troyanovskiy has said that the mining of Nicaraguan ports is a new and dangerous chapter in the history of international terrorism.

As you can see, the unlawful behavior of the current Reagan administration and its open or covert intervention against Nicaragua, which has cost that Central American nation 1,300 lives, 2,00 injured, and hundreds of millions of dollars in damages, is condemned to fail and is repudiated by the world.

Worldwide Rejection

PA130703 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has condemned U.S. efforts to establish a maritime blockade of Nicaragua by mining its harbors. The international community, Perez de Cuellar said, is deeply concerned over this senseless and inadmissible policy being pursued by Washington.

In Bonn, an official spokesman has said that the FRG Government condemns the mining of the Nicaraguan harbors because it endangers freedom of the seas and hampers the Contadora Group's efforts to attain peace in Central America.

In the past few hours the Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Spain, and Canada have joined the world-wide wave of repudiation of the planting of mines in Nicaraguan harbors. French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson said in Strasbourg that it is extremely embarrassing to see the United States strongly defend the principle of free navigation in one part of the world, such as the Persian Gulf, and totally ignore it in Central America. France was one of the first governments to criticize the criminal CIA action, and has even offered to join other countries in clearing the mines from Nicaragua's harbors.

The Italian Communist Party has demanded that Prime Minister Bettino Craxi's government take a clear and firm position regarding the serious acts of aggression committed against Nicaragua by bands supported and financed by the United States. In a public declaration, the Italian Communists demanded that the authorities in Rome take measures at the level of the EEC to block and reject what they described as a serious and dangerous U.S. policy against Nicaragua and the Central American region in general.

In Lisbon, Admiral Alba Rosa Coutinho, former counselor of the Portuguese revolution of 1974, said that a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua would be an error that would cost the United States bitter casualties. He warned that the results would not be like those obtained by Washington in its military invasion of Grenada.

The secretariat of the International Conference of Solidarity with Nicaragua and for Peace in Central America began a meeting in Lisbon to begin preparations for a forum that will be held in that city 3-6 May. The meeting has been described by the local media as historic because it will express international support for the Central American peoples.

CIA SAID ASKING SAUDI ARABIA FUNDS FOR NICARAGUA

FL140208 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] The U.S. newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST today revealed that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, is studying the possibility of asking the Government of Saudi Arabia to send funds to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. The goal of the CIA would be to make up for the funds that the U.S. Congress refuses to grant, the newspaper stated. The newspaper attributed the initiative to CIA Director William Casey.

In the meantime, the U.S. House of Representatives has joined the Senate in disapproving President Reagan's policy in Central America by passing a resolution condemning the mining of Nicaraguan ports. Last night the legislators approved by an overwhelming majority a nonbinding resolution condemning the mining of Nicaraguan ports and the use of CIA funds for that type of action.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN BUSINESS CRITICIZED

FL121910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1831 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 12 (CANA) -- Heavy government spending, borrowing, and a growing deficit averaging about 16 per cent of Jamaica's gross national product (GDP) came in for strong attacks from the local business community yesterday.

Sam Mahfood, president of the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (PSOJ), umbrella organisation of business groups here, criticised what he said was a growing involvement by Jamaica's free enterprise government in business, which he said was fed by over spending and borrowing.

Speaking at a luncheon of the institute of chartered accountants here, he said "if we subscribe to the principle of free enterprise, we should be seeking over time to develop the market forces and to reduce the investment role of the government, instead of the trend we are currently pursuing of creating more government."

Mahfood attributed the decline of the Jamaican economy since the early seventies to the expansion of the public sector.

The ouster of the socialist government of Michael Manley's People's National Party by the conservative Jamaica Labour Party in 1980 had raised hopes in the business community here, that there would have been a reduction of government interference in business.

However, despite the pronouncements of Prime Minister Edward Seaga, a champion of the free market system, the share of the public sector in business continues to grow, Mahfood complained.

Prime Minister Seaga in announcing taxation measures for J 138 million dollars (1 JCA dollar; 26 cents U.S.) two weeks ago said that its main objective was to reduce the near unmanageable deficit.

Mahfood said that he is of the view that the decline of the economy will not be reversed until the government spending is checked. The PSOJ chief said recently published figures showed the government-owned national hotels and properties chalking up accumulated debts of J 219 million dollars and national sugar company, another state-run company, with debts of J 250 million dollars.

He said that between 1974 and 1975 unemployment in the public sector increased by nearly 30 per cent, while production in the private sector declined by 1.5 per cent. In 1976, he said, government spending rose 38.8 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). In 1983 it reached an estimated 43 per cent of GDP.

Referring to the United States deficit, he said that the single digit figure is causing much problem there, "and ours at three times as much is undermining economic development." Said he: The bind in which we find ourselves is that, although our per capita income level is estimated to be a mere one-tenth of the U.S. and Western Europe, the government absorbs a larger share of domestic resources than is the case in most advanced industrial countries.

He said that despite the constraints within which the private sector had to perform, he is of the opinion that it did reasonably well.

ST LUCIA

COMPTON SUBMITS TAX-FREE BUDGET TO PARLIAMENT

FL111905 Bridgetown CANA in English 1737 GMT 11 Apr 84

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, April 11 (CANA) -- Prime Minister John Compton last night presented St Lucians with a tax-free budget of 216 million dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) for the 1984-85 financial year, reflecting a large increase in capital spending. Compton, who is also finance minister, said he was balancing the recurrent budget. Additional revenue would be raised by more efficient tax collection and the improved administration of existing laws. "I am convinced that the present level of taxation is sufficiently high and that there must even be a review of some of the tax measures which have proved themselves to be counter productive," he told Parliament.

The budget for the last financial year was 185.6 million dollars. Total recurrent expenditure for 1984-85 is put at 129.9 million dollars -- the same as projected revenue -- compared [words indistinct] dollars for the last budget 1983-84 was 109.5 million dollars.

Government's capital spending moves from a modest 17 million dollars in the last financial year to 85.9 million dollars in 1984-85.

Compton said the withholding taxes on interest and rents must be removed. He said St Lucians living abroad would not bank their money at home if the government confiscated 25 per cent of the interest earned as taxes. "Now will people abroad lend us money if the government takes 25 per cent of the interest in taxes," he added.

Compton said that after four years of negative growth the economy was on the road to recovery with a projected growth rate in 1984 of five per cent. He said that as a result of general improvements in the economy, unemployment, though still at an unacceptably high level, had fallen by five per cent from the high point of 27 per cent which it reached between 1979 and 1982 when a power struggle and "economic mismanagement of the last government pushed the economy to the very verge of collapse." He said that inflation had also been brought under control. "While in the years 1979-82 inflation reached an annual rate of 15 per cent, in 1982, the rate dropped to 4.6 per cent and in (?1983) 1.5 per cent at which point it now appears to have stabilised," Compton added.

The prime minister said that while the economy had, to a great extent, responded to government's policies of stimulation, government revenues had been slow to reflect these improvements.

"Customs duties, consumption tax, income tax and stamp duties have all fallen short of the target estimated," he said, adding that while expenditure had been held below the limits appropriated there had been a deficit of revenues over expenditure of three million dollars. Compton continued: "Although total expenditure was cut by 15.7 million dollars against the amount of 128,723 dollars approved by this charge on the public revenue, this deficit has resulted in the delay or abandonment of many projects approved under the capital programme."

The finance minister said the disappointing revenue performance had also resulted in the inability of government to pay off arrears of debts accumulated by the previous government and had put substantial pressure on government meeting some of its current obligations for goods supplied and services rendered. Citing an example, he said that loans to St Lucia from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) for water and electricity development could not be proceeded with because of government's huge indebtedness to the Central Water Authority and the St Lucia Electricity Services.

"Government and statutory boards owe the electricity company over two million dollars and the water authority close to four million," he announced.

Compton said: "Unless government can contain expenditure on the administrative services and direct this country's resources into the productive sectors, the rate of our recovery will be unnecessarily painful and slow." He added that unless arrears were wiped off and bills paid on a current basis, there would be serious water and electricity problems by 1986.

The prime minister did not elaborate on the allocation of funds for the respective sectors of the economy nor give details of how the fiscal deficit would be financed, but said that of the 85.9 million dollars provided for development projects, St Lucia needed to find some 12 million dollars in counterpart funds. "Without this many of these projects funded by external agencies cannot be proceeded with and St Lucia's economic recovery and development will be severely impeded," Compton added.

The finance minister suggested that in the event of further economic hardship he would rather resign than seek assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). "I am not prepared to be the minister who presents St Lucia back to the international treasury control of the IMF. I have said repeatedly that there is no room for two of us. If they must come, then I must go," Compton added. He said the next few weeks would be devoted to a "thorough scrutiny" of the budget to see what "dead branches must be pruned from the tree of our economy to ensure that it recovers, flowers and bears fruit."

He added: "Expenditure has been contained, but administrative costs absorb a disproportionate share of the revenues and these costs must be adjusted if the recovery is not to be hampered." Compton said that revenue, though increasing," is not keeping pace with recurrent expenditure, thus preventing adequate local contribution to the development projects." He said that areas of waste and wasteful expenditure would have to be examined as a matter of urgency "if the delicate leaves of recovery are not to be stifled."

VICE PRESIDENT ATTACKS U.S. AT PEACE CONFERENCE

FL162100 Bridgetown CANA in English 1440 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 14 (CANA) -- The independence and sovereignty of Latin America and the Caribbean are under grave external threat, according to Guyana's Vice President Mohamed Shahabudeen.

"The danger which looms before us is but part of a more universal encirclement of development nations everywhere, whether it be in the Middle East, or southern Africa, or Southeast Asia or the Korean Peninsula," he told a peace conference which opened here last Friday. Delegates from 15 countries and more than 10 organizations from the Caribbean and Eastern Europe attended the opening session.

Dr Shahabudeen, who is also the attorney general, said: "The head of imperialism is aimed all too painfully visible in the dislocation, turmoil, and turbulence distressting so much of humanity today. No continent, no region is exempt." He added: "It is, unfortunately, only too true that intervention and interference is not new in Latin America and the Caribbean. We do not imagine that our case is unrelated to the larger pattern of harassment and upheaval."

He said what was new and perhaps special to the Caribbean and Latin America was the intensity and openness of such activities. "Pretexts and faces have worn too thin for use. The claims of simple physical preponderance risk stark and unconcealed to threaten not only the security but the very meaning of independence of states within our region in a manner and in a measure never before felt or known or anticipated," he said. As a result, he continued, "one witnesses the forces of imperialism openly intervening in El Salvador against the struggle of the people of that beleaguered territory to end a system of exploitation, abuse, and injustice which has been entrenched in that unhappy land for much too long. And we listen with dismay when what is done is sought to be justified in terms of an East-West ideological confrontation which grotesquely distorts the nature of the easily recognisable process taking place in that country."

At the same time, Dr Shahabudeen said, a rebel movement was sponsored against the popularly supported Sandinista government of Nicaragua. "In plainest violation of primary norms of international conduct, acts of sabotage designed to disrupt the economy are actively promoted, and large-scale military and naval operations, including the laying of naval mines, have been mounted to bring the heroic people of the country into line," he told the conference.

Giving support to the Contadora Group -- Venezuela, Mexico, Panama, and Colombia -- trying to bring peace to Central America, he said "we look upon Contadora as representing a rejection by Latin America of solutions imposed from without, and as symbolising a determination on the part of the region to find by peaceful means Latin America solutions to the problems of Latin America."

Dr Shahabudeen referred to what he termed "continuing efforts to isolate the Republic of Cuba and her harassment by numerous overt and covert attempts at economic and political destabilisation."

He said: "It was in Grenada, however, in October last, that we regrettably saw the most ruthless manifestation of the imperialist attitude to independence and sovereignty of that country, by trampling underfoot that country's integrity." He said the fate of Grenada was a cause of profound concern, "but our concern becomes even more acute when we consider the implications for the peace and security of other states in the region." He told delegates that the invasion planned "some considerable time before its execution" conclusively demonstrated "the unassuageable intolerance of those who have arrogated to themselves the right of deciding what models of development may be competently pursued, and the philosophies and ideologies on which models may be ligitimately based."

"In Guyana, the determination to exercise our rights as an independent and sovereign nation has not been suffered to go unchallenged," he said. Guyana has been subjected to a variety of pressures designed to thwart its socialist goal, he added, and "recent events in the Caribbean have not shrunk from insinuating their disturbing meaning in our direction."

He said the "imperialist strategies" had the effect of "sowing discord and instability" among Latin American and Caribbean states. "The militarism introduced into Central America and the Caribbean perilously heightens the level of tension in the region," he remarked.

Dr Shahabudeen called for unity among the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. "The interests of peace and security and the defence of national sovereignty and independence in our region place special obligations on us," he remarked. "The peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean look to us for concrete action to ensure that they can organise their own economic and social development free from outside interference and without the need to seek the prior approval of an external authority for such forms as they themselves may choose."

The conference ends tomorrow with a rally to be addressed by President Forbes Burnham.

NEW EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR ON EXPANDING RELATIONS

FL161436 Bridgetown CANA in English 2041 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 15 (CANA) -- Egypt is looking forward to a broadening of bilateral relations with Guyana, Cario's non-resident Ambassador Abd al-'Aziz Shararah said here. In presenting his credentials to Vice President Cammie Ramsaroop at State House, the envoy said: "The Egyptian people and Government look forward to further expanding our bilateral relations in all possible fields and to new perspectives in diverse areas of cooperation."

He said there were many similarities in outlook between Guyana and Egypt, which were also both members of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement. "We also belong to the same group of nations striving for a better place under the sun: We both are dedicated to promoting the development and progress of our people and safeguarding their rights," Ambassador Shararah said. He also said Guyana and Egypt share the same aspirations for international and regional peace and security, adding: "With renewed cooperation and concerted efforts, our endeavours for achieving such goals will considerably be enhanced."

Vice President Ramsaroop said that the two countries could and must make a contribution to international peace through the Nonaligned Movement and other international fora.